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LORD BEACONSFIELD ON HIS DEFENCE.

Whether the result is to be attributed to physical weariness, or to an irrepressible feeling of the hollowness of the whole position, certain it is that Lord Beaconsfield's speech of Thursday evening fell very flat after the exhibition of the preceding Tuesday. The audience was one of almost unprecedented magnificence. The stately House of Lords was packed like a theatre on the "benefit night" of a popular player. Gorgeously decked ladies scrambled for places as they do at a royal drawing-room; and peeresses had to be hoisted into uncomfortable and precarious positions, as adventurous little boys climb lamp-posts and cornices on the occasion of a great street show. It was a proud moment when the hero of the Berlin Treaty, after the last touch had been given to the preparations for his reception, walked into the House from behind the Throne, amidst rapturous cheers, in which even strangers could not be prevented from joining. From that moment, according to reporters, "the suspense was almost painful" until the orator of the evening arose to deliver, as was supposed, a masterpiece of eloquence worthy the crowning triumph of his life. But the audience was disappointed. That the statement made was ingenious and cleverly arranged is indisputable. But after all it was only a statement, not an oration. With an evident disposition to make the critics of the new Treaty look foolish, there was yet an entire absence of the effective epigram and keen, because polished, satire of which the speaker is admittedly a master. No one expects earnestness from Lord Beaconsfield, or the passion in which it often seeks expression. But in grandiose declamation he is an expert; and his admirers naturally looked upon the occasion as peculiarly fitted to draw out his gifts. Two days before, a plebeian humourist in the crowd, on being ordered by the police to come down from one of Landseer's lions, from whose back he was surveying the scene, forcibly argued that it was very hard if he could not ride the British lion on such a day. And this was very much the feeling of the brilliant assembly of Thursday. But, instead of riding the British lion, our Plenipotentiary seemed to feel a tone of apology more appropriate. And in such circumstances to apologise is to surrender.

This feeling is not confined to the Opposition party alone. It is expressed very strongly by some organs of the Press which had taken Lord Beaconsfield at his word, and had backed him to checkmate the ambition of Russia. From the point of view of his own professions and his own party Lord Beaconsfield had to prove that the Treaty secured the safety and independence he had promised to Turkey, and had established a lasting peace. And for the satisfaction of all parties alike he was called upon to show that the honour and the true interests of our own country had been maintained. With regard to the first point, he was hampered with the obvious difficulty that the dominions of Turkey have been very largely diminished, and its impotence assumed throughout the whole of the negotiations. That he felt the awkwardness of the facts very painfully was shown by his laboured distinction between "partition" and "redistribution." Parts of Turkish territory have been handed over to Austria, a part to Russia, a part to England, a part to Greece, while other portions have been set up as independent principalities. But all this is not partition. Redistribution "the wise it call." As to Batoum, which the Russians had not conquered, but which is surrendered to them by the treaty, Lord Beaconsfield it seems had been previously unacquainted with the real size of its harbour. He has now learned that it will only hold three ships, or six if they were packed as in a dock; and therefore all the fuss that the *Daily Telegraph* and other organs of Jingoism had made about its importance was quite needless. Be it so; such matters are of little importance except as showing the lightness and frivolity at the back of the heroics of the present Government, and the unblushing effrontery with which a change of face can be effected when it is thought that inconsistency will pay.

Much more important was the wider bearing of the Treaty as affecting the duty of this country to itself and to its mission in the world. In this aspect the speech of Lord Beaconsfield was painful and humiliating to every patriot whose love of country rises above filibustering heroics and buncombe. If there was one duty which our position and history pressed on us more than any other, it was surely that of facilitating the liberation of the elements of higher organisation from the decay and putrefaction that overspread the Turkish provinces. Such was the view of the Greeks, till they were undeceived by the cynicism of our representatives. As Lord Beaconsfield observed, "They had totally misapprehended the reason why the Congress had met together and the objects it had in view." It assembled not to help Christianity enslaved by Mahomedanism, but to prop up a throne whose foundations are slippery with blood. Yet beyond this ignoble subserviency to the vilest government in Europe there were clearly discernible in Lord Beaconsfield's speech Imperial schemes of great attractiveness to the vulgar, but of portentous danger to the best elements in our national life. Noteworthy was his lament over the loss of British dependencies, "which if the principles that now prevail between the Imperial Government and our dependencies had prevailed then, we should not, perhaps, have lost, and then this Empire would have been proportionally increased." Significant, perhaps, was his congratulation on "an expenditure which at least had shown the resources and determination of this country," and significant too was his boast that "England must have seen with pride the Mediterranean covered with her ships, she must have seen with pride the discipline and devotion shown by all her troops, of every nation, from whorever they have come." But perhaps most ominous of all was the studied silence observed as to the real nature and ultimate aims of the new responsibility undertaken for Asiatic Turkey. Take too, in connection with this, the revelation made by Lord Derby as to one of the principal reasons for his retirement from the Cabinet, and common-sense suggests the inference that, if the present evil counsels continue to be followed, not many years will elapse before we are plunged into a mad conflict for a second Asiatic dominion—a conflict threatening our very existence—and for an object entirely alien to our historic mission. In our opinion Lord Derby has been unduly criticised for his alleged breach of official etiquette. Something is surely due to a nation whose interests are imperilled, as well as to the traditions of office. And one of the conclusions to which the people will be brought when they recover their senses will be this—that nothing in the Constitution so urgently needs reform as the practically unlimited power of the Crown and two or three courtly advisers to determine the destiny of this country over the heads of our representatives in Parliament.

THE IRISH EDUCATION BILL.

With a dissolution in prospect, the Government is evidently anxious to propitiate the classes to which it most naturally looks for support. The defence of the burial monopoly not being a sufficient price to pay for clerical aid, four new bishoprics are offered, with a largesse in the shape of a partial exemption of the tithe-rent charge from parochial taxation. The agriculturists are to be assured a high price for their stock by the limitation of the foreign cattle-trade. And the Ultramontane and Home-Rule vote is, if possible, to be bought by the Irish Intermediate Education Bill.

Some of these efforts of ministerial management have cost the Government but little trouble. The Cattle Bill has cost them much already, and will cost them more hereafter. But this Irish Bill has been received with a shout of approbation from opposite quarters, such as is commonly reserved for the rare productions of political genius. Irish Liberals have "jumped at it," and English Liberals, for reasons more occult than obvious, have stamped it with the seal of generous and confiding approbation. Thus far, opposition has come chiefly from a Conservative quarter. We will not add a Protestant quarter; because, although Mr. Lewis is the representative of a thoroughly Protestant constituency, his opposition was not based on Protestant grounds, but on the fact that the Bill was one for the support of denominationalism all round, and, therefore, was, in fact, a measure for concurrent endowment. The absence of sectarianism was one merit of Mr. Lewis's weighty speech on the second reading, and another was the perspicuity and the force with which it pointed out the real character, and the actual tendency, of the measure.

We do not attach importance to the fact that the Bill sets aside the 68th Clause of the Irish Church Act, which provided that the surplus derived from the disendowment of the Church should be mainly applied to the relief of unavoidable calamity and suffering. That was a compromise for getting rid of an embarrassing question, which it was not necessary to determine at that time. It may be an unpleasant reflection to the Liberals that the fund which they created should be disposed of by their opponents, instead of by themselves; but it appears to be a function of Liberal Governments to provide funds for Tories to spend, or to squander. Provided that the money be wisely expended, there is much to be said in favour of its application to educational purposes. Neither will we

question the educational merits of the measure. It is likely enough that it fails in that it does not sufficiently provide for the increase of the existing intermediate schools, and that by promoting a system of cramming it may advance the interests of a few, without improving the education of the many. It is certain that the bill is grossly unjust in ignoring the educational wants of the female sex, and that at a time when we had supposed that politicians of all classes acknowledged that past neglect in this respect ought to be atoned for with a just and generous hand.

Mr. Lewis's main ground of objection to the bill is, that both by the prizes given to boys, and the result fees paid to managers, even though both be given for secular results exclusively, support will be given to strictly sectarian schools; while no encouragement will be afforded to mixed education. The intermediate schools of Ireland—unlike those of England—are divided into hostile ecclesiastical camps. They are either wholly Protestant—as regards teachers, scholars, and management—or they are wholly Roman Catholic. It is for this reason that the proposed "conscience clause" is altogether delusive. That clause requires that fees shall not be paid to any school in which scholars are permitted to remain in attendance during the time of any religious instruction which their parents shall not have sanctioned, or in which the time for giving such instruction is not fixed so that scholars not remaining in attendance shall not be excluded from the advantages of the secular attendance given in the school. But neither Roman Catholic nor Protestant parents will send their children to schools in which the religious instruction given is not in accordance with their views, and hence there is no room for the operation of the clause. Or supposing that parents wish to avail themselves of certain schools, for the sake of the secular education given in them, and at the same time to avail themselves of this conscience clause, the school managers can frustrate their intentions, and, at the same time, checkmate the Legislature, by the simple expedient of refusing to admit such scholars to their schools. Yet there is nothing else in the bill to impose a check on the most rampant sectarianism. It is of the very essence of the bill that it takes cognisance only of what is secular, and ignores everything ecclesiastical which may be associated with it. Nobody can doubt that this million of money will go to uphold and extend religious teaching and denominational exclusiveness; but Parliament, ostrich-like, thrusts its head into the sand, that it may not see what it professes to condemn, and has aforetime sought to limit or to discourage. In that respect the bill was rightly described by Mr. Lewis as being a reversal of the educational policy of the nation during the last fifty years. That policy has aimed at extending mixed education, and at bringing youths of various creeds together, instead of their being educated in ecclesiastical sections. The policy has been bitterly opposed by the Roman Catholic hierarchy, in connection with primary schools, with the Queen's Colleges and with University extension. And now, by this bill, it is tacitly abandoned, and, naturally enough, the hierarchical party hail the charge with well-regulated enthusiasm. Not that this bill alone will satisfy them; since, in addition to the demand that the Board be appointed under it and the officers shall be so selected as to have the confidence of Irish Romanists, they insist that it should be followed by a corresponding measure relating to University education.

Yet leading Liberals, so far from being made uneasy by such facts and tendencies, accept them as though mixed, as opposed to separate, education had never figured in their political programme. Mr. Gladstone, speaking in an unusually optimist vein, urged that "if in Ireland there be a preponderance of opinion in favour of mixed and united education in intermediate schools, those who entertain that sentiment will be under no disadvantage, direct or indirect, by our adopting the principle of the present Bill"—as though the nurturing strictly of denominational education by the State did not of itself inflict "a heavy blow and great discouragement" on the principle of united education. In like manner, Mr. Stansfeld, while in favour of that principle himself, saw no reason why he should impose it upon others who objected to it; adding, that "what the Liberal party had to do with reference to Irish politics consistently with the principles of Liberalism was this—they had to pay deference to Irish needs, *and to the conception in Irish minds of Irish needs.*" Need it be said that this might have been pleaded in justification not only of the Maynooth grant, but of the endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy? If admitted, it furnishes an irresistible reason for conceding all that the Roman Catholic leaders have asked, or may yet ask, in regard to the creation and endowment of a Roman Catholic University by the State. In fact, both Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Stansfeld already express their willingness to apply to University education the principle adopted in this measure.

The bill will be discussed in committee to-morrow, and both Mr. Lewis and Mr. Courtney have given notice of amendments intended to meet, to some extent, the objections we have described. One of these amendments provides that the regulations framed by the commissioners shall be sanctioned by Parliament, instead of being merely subject to the veto of Parliament—a provision the more needful because the Commissioners will be the nominees of the Lord-Lieutenant, and be removable by him at his pleasure. Another amendment extends the operation of the Bill so as to include girls, and we await with curiosity the objections which, it is understood, the Roman Catholic members will offer to the proposal. It is proposed altogether to omit the provision for the payment of result-fees to schools. Mr. Lewis proposes that there shall be in each school a sufficient number of specified hours set apart for secular instruction alone. Mr. Courtney would prohibit the refusal of admission to schools on the ground of religious belief, and, should the House decline so to strengthen the Conscience Clause, he will propose its omission, as being delusive as well as useless.

We have no hope of the success of most of these amendments, and that not merely because they will be opposed by many Liberals, but for a more serious reason. This Irish educational policy is, after all, little more than an adaptation to Ireland of the evil principles already applied to England, and, to a still greater extent, to Scotland. "Payment for secular results only" is the sophism which has reconciled even decided anti-state-churchmen to the payment of large subsidies to denominational schools. And if it be complained that this bill will not prevent denominational schools receiving public money closing their doors to scholars of a different faith from that of the managers, are not the English Education Acts open to precisely the same objection? The managers of our so-called "National" schools—which are national only in that they are mainly supported by national money—admit or exclude whom they choose, and sometimes avowedly on sectarian grounds, and when "the Department" is appealed to, the invariable answer is that it has not the power to interfere; because the managers are acting within their discretion. The homely proverb, "What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander," applies here with unanswerable force. The supporters of the Establishment do not deny it; but then they are willing to assent to concurrent endowment, or, in fact, to anything which will allow them to retain their share of the public funds. It is, however, otherwise with those who object to the support of religious opinions by the State in the case of adults, and yet have assented to it in connection with the education of the young. They may complain of the extension of the principle to Ireland, but logically they are silenced.

LIBERAL LEADERS ON THE TREATY.

THE speeches of Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Forster—the one delivered at a meeting of the Liberals of Southwark; the other at the annual dinner of the Cobden Club—have given a very clear outline of the objections entertained by thoughtful Liberal politicians to the Treaty of Berlin. The speech of the former is especially valuable, because, not content with merely negative criticism, he indicated very plainly the policy that ought to have been pursued. Tories, in general, find it very convenient to forget the Berlin Memorandum; and in that forgetfulness they imagine there is an unanswerable force in the question, "What would you have had the Ministry to do?" The evils of a bad policy grow more and more complicated as its results are developed, and those complications are often made an excuse for fresh blunders. Thus the isolation of our Government, through the national selfishness of its ideas on the Eastern Question, is often urged as a justification for bold and even desperate courses. This seems to have been the view of one amongst Mr. Gladstone's audience, who exclaimed, "Why did not Europe help England?" With the tact of a true orator, Mr. Gladstone made use of this question to put in the clearest light the fundamental issue between himself and his political opponents. "My friend asks why did not Europe help England? Europe did help England. Have you never heard of the Berlin Memorandum? Are you not aware that the five Powers of the Continent in the Berlin Memorandum devised a plan for putting an end to the Turkish misgovernment in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and invited England to accede to it, and England refused?" The consequence of this refusal was the recent war, which set the special interests of Russia against the supposed special interests of Great Britain. The answer of Mr. Gladstone, therefore, to those who ask him what alternative policy he has to suggest is simply this—that he would have agreed to the Berlin Memorandum, and would have used the united force of Europe to put that pressure upon Turkey which, when applied by any single Power, necessarily gives rise to jealousies, suspicions, and bad blood. It cannot have been without satisfaction that Mr. Gladstone commented on the "bag and baggage policy" virtually adopted by the professed defenders of Turkey; and the remainder of his speech was a solemn and much-needed warning against the bitter fruits of political confusion, constitutional reaction, and financial disorder, that are certain to spring from the evil seeds now being sown.

Mr. Forster's speech at the Cobden Club was principally noteworthy for the firmness of tone exhibited by a politician who, except in defence of the Established Church, cannot be accused of unpractical obstinacy. His refusal to stand to his guns in the earlier stages of this question did much to increase the demoralisation of the Parliamentary Opposition. It would be ungenerous, however, to dwell upon a mistake which Mr. Forster now acknowledges even while he defends it. Some of his audience, he said, might think that during the negotiations, and during the last few months he and others might have been less chary about dividing in a minority; and he added, "I am not surprised at your thinking so. Perhaps, if I had foreseen what has now happened, I should have thought the same." The distinction he drew between the circumstances of that time and the present is plausible, though to our minds it only confirms the want of foresight which he candidly confesses. But it is satisfactory to hear that he now intends to join in making as forcible a protest as possible against the mischief that has been done. And we are bound to say that though Mr. Forster is in no sense an orator, there are very few men in the House who have studied the Eastern Question more conscientiously, and perhaps only two or three who are capable of stating with such masculine common-sense the real truth concerning it. From this point of view his speech at the Cobden Club left little to be desired. He gave good reason for calling the revolution in our relations to European Powers a "tremendous change in policy, by far the greatest known during his political life." He showed that if the convention with Turkey meant anything at all more

than an unworthy diplomatic fiction, it signified a complete surrender of the political and military advantages belonging to our insular position. "Do not suppose," he said, "that in protecting Turkey in Asia it is the same thing as having a dominion in India. Turkey in Asia is geographically in Asia, but it is on the borders of the Mediterranean, a European sea; and no one would deny that any Power which attempts to exercise dominion over Turkey in Asia is trying to interfere with the present relations of European nations one to another; because by the very fact of the treaty we are losing our position as an insular Power, and are trying to engage in all the difficulties, complications, and dangers at once of the large Continental Powers." On the assumption that Russia means to attack India—an assumption Mr. Forster regards as utterly groundless—he argued that it was a gratuitous surrender of a strong position to take upon ourselves the difficulty and expense of advancing to meet her instead of leaving her to waste her resources in a march of a thousand miles over a difficult country. A guarantee of "the worst government at present existing" must either condemn us to unendurable shame, or involve us in an enterprise that must strain our resources to the verge of bankruptcy. And in answer to the appeal sometimes addressed to the higher elements of the national character, Mr. Forster fairly urged that if it is our duty to help in reforming the world, "a country which has taken upon itself the task of looking after 250,000,000 of Hindoos has about done its share."

THE EDUCATION BOARD AND CLERICAL INFLUENCE IN SCHOOLS.—Lord George Hamilton's assumption of the office recently held by Lord Sandon, as Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education, has been promptly followed by the issue of new regulations, which ought not to escape the notice of those who have a wholesome dread of undue clerical influence in schools. Hitherto religious instruction has been left in the hands of pupil-teachers and paid monitors, because the clergy found it difficult to make use of the one hour of the day set apart for this purpose. Now, however, where there is a class-room attached to a school, religious instruction will be given during the same time that secular subjects are being taught in the schoolroom. The question inevitably arises, What will be the character of the instruction given? The school teacher will be left to his secular topics, and the priest in his "class-room" will be left to his. School teachers are required to give satisfactory proofs of their efficiency. Will clergymen also be required to give similar proof, and will there be any supervision of the teaching in the "class-room"?—*Weekly Review.*

COLONIAL BISHOPS AND THEIR EXPERIENCES.—Several of the bishops attending the Lambeth Conference met some of the junior clergy of the metropolis, at the Chapter House, St. Paul's, on Thursday, not merely to explain the wants of their dioceses, but to point out certain hindrances in their work abroad, which the clergy at home might do much to obviate. The Bishop of Cape Town presided, and addresses were delivered by the Bishops of Bombay, Bloemfontein, and Colombo, while a paper by the Bishop of Barbadoes was read by the Rev. John Oakley. The Bishop of Cape Town hoped that in ecclesiastical matters the union between the Church at home and her daughter Churches would be maintained. He was not one of those who objected to coloured stoles, dedications, and choral festivals and the like—all excellent things in their way, and which he enjoyed when at home—but he desired to see, not a feminine, but a masculine religion, less fastidiousness, and more willingness to rough it. What was needed, in fact, was a spirit of self-sacrifice. Another great difficulty with which the Church in the Colonies had to deal was the imperfect education in the principles of their Church which characterised the mass of professing Churchmen. While Roman Catholics, Wesleyans, and Presbyterians were well instructed in their faith, the majority of Churchmen had no knowledge of such simple facts as those contained in such a book as Sadler's "Church Doctrine and Bible Truth," and the result was that if a girl, say of the Dutch Reformed Church, refused to marry a man unless he conformed to her religion, he did so at once. The clergy should teach their people that they were not on the same platform as Dissent, but, at the same time, imbue them with sound principles. The paper of the Bishop of Barbadoes on the condition of the Church in the West Indies drew a melancholy picture of the moral state of the negro population, and though approving associated missions as recommended by the Bishop of Bombay, he did not think celibacy of the clergy advisable in his diocese, which he described as "paralysed by the Establishment." He suggested schemes for better missionary organisation in England, and for English clergy helping for a year or longer periods in the diocese. After a brief debate the meeting adjourned.

Literature.

"GOETHE."

This volume of the series of "Foreign Classics for English Readers" has been prepared with great care. Mr. Hayward has for many years been a thoughtful student of Goethe, and has made a very large collection of Goethe literature. This has stood him in good stead in the preparation of the little volume before us, which is strong in some of the points in which its predecessors were weak, and weak in some of those in which they were strong. Mrs. Oliphant did not take so much time to master the facts of Dante's life and era as she should have done, and it is notorious that Principal Tulloch was not, when he wrote his "Pascal," aware of the existence of some of the most valuable chapters in French literature about his subject, or at any rate did not write as though he were. But both had graces and attractions of style which sustained them, and which, again, Mr. Hayward largely lacks. He writes in a plain straightforward way, but we are often astonished at the awkwardness of his constructions, his confirmed colloquialisms and his utter deficiency in the sense of music in style. We are surprised too that with all his knowledge of details—his skill in the analysis of single works, and his general effective grouping, that he has been able to throw so little light on the problem which Goethe's character presents. It is true that he rebels against the blind hero-worship which has been hitherto so successful in the cases of Mr. Carlyle and Mr. G. H. Lewes, now and then saying a very pointed and effective thing; and he seeks to show us that Goethe, though a great artist, was lessened even as an artist because of the flecks and the loosenesses in his character as a man; but there is little or no effort made to penetrate the recesses of Goethe's moral individuality so as to find some kind of solution of the difficulty presented. Indeed, the difficulty is intensified instead of being diminished under Mr. Hayward's hand; for, while he parts company from Mr. Lewes on the moral ground, he agrees implicitly with that writer in regarding the Second Faust as inartistic and a failure, instead of endeavouring to justify his opinion critically by finding in its faults the inevitable reflections of the author's own laxities of life. And yet, like the more blindly enthusiastic among Goethe's critics and biographers, Mr. Hayward quotes at one place the protestation of Goethe that all his works were but fragments of the grand confession of his life. This reiterated protest has had the effect of driving Goethe-students to seek in the events of his life for the key to each of his works—a business which they have prosecuted to such extremes that the result is almost disgusting—or, if not quite that, such as disposes one very much to make a suggestive quotation from Herr Gutskow! As for Mr. Carlyle, his worship of Goethe is unintelligible on any ground that can be made consistent with his general declaration as to heroism, or his professed literary canons.

Goethe, in spite of great artistic self-restraint, was deficient in will. He was the slave of the most capricious impulses, and deceived himself into the idea of self-mastery, when, because of his artistic self-observation, he was able finally to turn the results to literary uses. He fell facilely into love, hovered helplessly about the objects of his passion, and actually ran hither and thither, as in the Swiss and Italian journeys, to experiment with himself as to the real strength of the attraction in the respective cases, and to discover how much he might lose in any effort of self-denial in the matter of momentary gratification. The excuse has often been put forward for Goethe in his kaleidoscopic amours that he was an *artist*. The plea would be more effective if Goethe had realised with more of keenness, that it is possible for the artist and the man to be in conflict. Though his appropriative impulse and his self-enjoying impulse were often in direct conflict, and keenly felt by him to be so, he never realised that it was possible for moral defects to emerge through the perpetual effort to readjust them; and it is here that Goethe fails both as the man and as the artist. A self-glorification that at last actually ran into a kind of conscious theatricality which weakened the sense of honest discrimination and distinction—and which made him content to *pose*, and to mystify—more and more obtains. This was the phase which his great genius finally assumed. That anecdote Eckermann tells of the manner in which the Second Part of "Wilhelm Meister" was strung together is very illustrative of this, while the mode in which when in Italy working on the Second Faust, he excited his jaded feelings by adventures, and the style in which he drew matter for the "Wahlverwandschaften" from his experiences with "Bettina" are all physiognomic. He was thus, especially in his later life, debarred from access to these deepest moral experiences of human hearts—sense of sin, remorse, and repentance. These he never realised, and, therefore could not picture. His gallery of creations is limited to reflections of his own capabilities; and polished, beautiful, and stately as they were, they want moral depth. His greatest works are, after all, his earliest—those produced while his sympathies were as yet not completely stained by prurient experiences, and while he was in healthy sympathy with the life which was lived around him—"Goetz von Berlichingen" and "The First Faust." These Heine very incisively separates from his later ones by saying that they are attractive by their substance rather than by their form—by their substance which was directly drawn from the German life and popular belief of the period.

With Goethe's religion it was the same as with his art. His religion was a Spinozistic worship of nature, out of which, however, the properly moral element had been eliminated. This is a part of the subject of which Mr. Hayward might have made a great deal more. His work is well fitted to awaken an interest in the minds of those who approach Goethe for the first time, and desiderate a kind of general introduction; and since it is for this class that the book is chiefly intended, it may with all confidence be recommended; though to those who have carefully and thoughtfully studied Goethe for themselves, and now lack suggestive leading-lines to aid them in interpreting him in his nicer and more problematic aspects, we fear that Mr. Hayward's efforts will not bring much help of the kind they are more particularly in want of.

* *Goethe.* By A. HAYWARD. (Foreign Classics for English Readers.) (William Blackwood and Sons.)

*DR. KUENEN ON PROPHECY IN ISRAEL.**

Dr. Kuenen is well known as one of the most "advanced" of rationalistic critics. And in dealing with him there is this great advantage, that he attempts no disguise. On the contrary, he takes pains to make what he calls his "standpoint" very clear. This he does especially in his earlier work, "The Religion of Israel." And his standpoint is this. He rejects the old and common idea respecting the religion of Israel, his description of which we only slightly abridge:—"God chose out of all the nations of the earth one alone, the Israelites, to guard and propagate the knowledge of His being and His will, until the time when it pleased Him to extend the circle of His worshippers, and to include in it those nations and persons who showed themselves prepared to accept His last and highest revelation to Israel. It is possible to see in heathen religions something which is not error and darkness; but yet truth is attributed to the Israelitish and Christian religions in a sense entirely special and peculiar. No human effort, however deserving of respect, can compete with God's gifts." Rejecting this doctrine, which ascribes truth "in a sense entirely special and peculiar" to the Israelitish and Christian religions, Dr. Kuenen regards the Israelitish religion (and with it, of course, the Christian) as simply one of "the principal religions" of the world. "For us (he says) the Israelitish is one of those religions, nothing less, but also nothing more." In this it is not implied that there exists no difference in value between the religions of mankind. "Nothing hinders us from estimating one a good deal higher than another." But "the idea of including the Israelitish and the Christian among 'the principal religions,' deserves approbation and applause, only if there exist no specific difference between these two and all the other forms of religion. Unless it be from want of thought, this cannot be admitted by those who derive the Jewish and Christian religions from special Divine revelation and all other forms from human invention."

Passing by the imperfect statement of the common view, as ascribing all religions but the Jewish and Christian to human *invention*, the one thing *positive* in Kuenen's "standpoint" is the *negation* of any special Divine revelation was surrounded. The sacred records of the Israelites and Christians attribute to each of these two religions a supernatural origin, it is true; but they do this in common with other in either the Jewish or Christian faiths, and the negation of any "specific" difference between Judaism and the world-religions with which it

* *The Prophets and Prophecy in Israel.* An Historical and Critical Inquiry. By Dr. A. KUENEN, Professor of Theology in the University of Leyden. Translated from the Dutch by the Rev. Adam Milroy, M.A., with an Introduction by J. Muir, Esq., D.C.L. (London: Longmans, Green, and Co.)

forms of religion. And "if we look upon those other religions as manifestations of the religious spirit of mankind, are we not bound"—so it is written in the book of Kuenon—"to examine the Israelitish and the Christian religions from the same point of view?" Pascal is represented as saying, "I cannot forgive Descartes. He would willingly in all his philosophy have done with God, if he could, but he could not get on without letting Him give the world a fillip to set it agoing; after that he has nothing more to do with God." But, according to Kuenen, God did not give so much as a fillip to set the religion of Israel and of Christ agoing. It is only one of many that has sprung out of the heart of man.

At this point we must enter our protest against the arrogance which claims for this naturalistic theory of Judaism and Christianity, that it is *the* theory which has grown by a sure and certain process out of ripe and scientific modern thought. "This (we read) is the view taken by modern theological science." Again we read of "the modern as opposed to the ecclesiastical views." In the preface to his book on prophecy, Kuenen says, "Its merits, if it have any, consist just in this (quoting from another) 'that it sums up, as it were in a nutshell, the modern view of the subject, and the grounds on which it rests.'" Modern, forsooth! as if theological naturalism were entitled to be placed alongside gravitation or the discoveries of the spectrum analysis, as an established and unquestioned fact! The existence of such men as Oosterzee, Kuenen's own neighbour at Utrecht, and of the many Germans of equal note and learning with any boastful naturalist, whose writings are known over the world, is entirely ignored. And the doctrine of a few bold rationalists who are in no sense the superiors of those whom they ignore, is spoken of complacently as *the* doctrine before which all contrary opinions have paled away into the obscurity of the past. This is a *trick* of the school to which Kuenen belongs; we mean a characteristic and confirmed habit; and no doubt many are simple enough to accept the estimate which these men give of themselves and of their "modern thought."

Kuenen's views of prophecy and the Jewish prophets, are in harmony with the "standpoint" from which he starts in his "Religion of Israel." His work can scarcely be called a "Historical and Critical *Inquiry*," for it is based on a foregone conclusion, and all the toil to which writer and reader—and it is not small—are subjected, has for its one object to confirm that conclusion. The work has the benefit of an introduction of forty pages from the pen of Dr. J. Muir, of Edinburgh, who thus describes the two opposing theories of Jewish prophecy:—"According to the orthodox or traditional view, which is still the most common, the prophets were the messengers of God, and though they primarily spoke to the Hebrews, their preaching concerned the entire human race, being closely connected with Christianity, and having, with gradually increasing clearness and fulness, foretold the future advent and character of the Redeemer. According to the historico-critical, or organic view, on the other hand, prophecy proceeds, indeed, from God, as being, like other human achievements, the result of powers bestowed by Him, but is not the less the work of man, and is the highest utterance of the Hebrew spirit; and although it contains no prediction of Christian facts, it yet prepares the way for Christianity." But Christianity itself, be it observed, is not, on this principle, supernatural. It is but the naturally ripened product of the natural growth of ages that went before, being of God only as being, *like other human achievements, the result of powers bestowed by Him.* Jesus Christ, it is true, was "the greatest of the prophets"; but then, it must be remembered, the prophets were not what "the orthodox or traditional view" has represented them, "the messengers of God"—the very best of them did only what one of their number condemns, in the Name, and avowedly by the authority of God Himself—they spoke "visions of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the Lord." (Jer. xxiii. 16.)

Within the limits to which we are confined we cannot attempt even the briefest discussion of the subject of "The Prophets and Prophecy in Israel," a subject which, as treated by Dr. Kuenen, includes every question that can be raised concerning the Books of Scripture from Genesis to Revelation, their origin and their teachings. But we cannot help remarking on the oft-revealed credulity of sceptical critics. Beginning with an *à priori* judgment against the miraculous, they content themselves with the most superficial reasons for rejecting anything that claims to be miraculous, and the most superficial explanations of things of which no genuine explanation can be given, that excludes the direct intervention of God. Thus Dr. Muir, heralding Dr. Kuenen, says, "that the phenomena [of the prophets and prophecy in Israel] can be accounted for—without a resort to the supposition of any miraculous intervention—by the genius and the peculiar religious character of the Hebrews, as developed by their history and fortunes, and acted upon by the circumstances of the times in which the prophets lived." There is not a phrase here, in all the causation to which the phenomena of prophecy are ascribed, which has anything more than a semblance of truth, and in fact there is not a phrase here which does not imply an untruth. (a.) "The genius of the Hebrews." There is nothing more certain, historically, than that the genius of the Hebrews was as idolatrous as the genius of the other Semitic nations—the Assyrians, for example. And it could not produce a succession of men for at least seven or eight hundred years, from Samuel to Malachi, whose vocation it should be to wage perpetual war against itself. (b.) "The peculiar religious character of the Hebrews." There is nothing in this phrase additional to the idea we have in "the genius of the Hebrews," as explanatory of the phenomena of prophecy. Instead of "the peculiar religious character of the Hebrews," as it appears in the faith of Abraham, and in that of his true spiritual sons until the coming of Christ, accounting for the phenomena of prophecy, it was itself the fruit of "prophecy," the fruit produced and preserved age after age by that very succession of inspired men which Doctors Muir and Kuenen would have us believe was produced by it. And (c) as to the further explanation that the genius and peculiar religious character of the Hebrews were "acted upon by the circumstances of the times in which the prophets lived," we know that the influence of "the times," that is, of all surrounding associations, on Israel, was to perpetually drag the people down from the pure monotheism which the prophets inculcated into the grossest and cruellest practices of "the heathen." The prophets were in no sense inspired by their "times," or by the people who were for ever yielding to "the circumstances of their times." There is no explanation of *them*, and of the position which they occupied for ages, without seeking it outside and above themselves, their people, and their circumstances.

This argument against the ascription of the peculiar Hebrew religion to the genius of the Hebrews, or to anything in themselves, has been so often used as to become a commonplace with theological thinkers. And to our mind it is conclusive. But writers like Dr. Muir go on, smoothly and complacently, reiterating the stock phrase, "the genius of the Hebrews," as the true explanation of Moses, and Isaiah, and even Christ Himself, as if it were a historic axiom which had never been questioned. The impression deepened on our minds by the work before us is that the difficulties of unbelief are infinitely greater than the difficulties of faith. If it is the province of science to trace acknowledged effects to adequate causes, unbelief is unscientific when it ascribes such phenomena as are presented to us in the history of Israel to only such causes as Kuenon discovers and unfolds.

*CANON FARRAR ON "SAINTLY WORKERS."**

But for several saving clauses, Canon Farrar's purpose in delivering the course of lectures reprinted in this work, might be misunderstood. There is, just now, in the Established Church—has been, indeed, for the last fifty years—a diseased tendency towards some of the worst forms of Christian life in the mediæval age. Men have aped monasticism, and women have thought that the highest obligation upon them was conveyed in the words of Hamlet, "Get thee to a nunnery." We have not heard that the dirt of the old monks has been imitated so that it might be said of clergymen of to-day, as was said of Becket when he was found to be covered with vermin, "nobody knew till then what a holy man he was"! However, we should not be surprised even at this. Men who neglect the duties of humanity for the sake of the lazy and self-righteous life of the anchorite, will be very likely to neglect a good deal more. Now, does Canon Farrar want a return to this old and dirty life? He has given us the answer in his "Preface":—"It ought," he says, "to be needless for me to say that these lectures were not suggested by any sympathy for the peculiar features of mediæval religion. I desired to call attention to the lives of men pre-eminent for goodness; but yet I repeatedly warned my readers to beware of their intellectual errors, and to see that the attempt to reproduce the mere external aspects of their lives would be at once impossible and pernicious." We are glad to read these words, emphatically repeating as they do what is said more than once in the lectures, for, notwithstanding what Canon Farrar thinks should be needless, they seem to us, we confess, to be urgently necessary.

For what has the Canon given to us? No exception, probably, could be taken to the eloquent lecture on "The Martyrs," with its trenchant application; but of the succeeding lectures what shall we say? They are very beautiful, and never were the lives of men more delicately, tenderly, eloquently sketched. But who are they? The first in the lecture on "The Hermits" is St. Antony, then St. Macarius, with references to Athanasius, St. Basil, and St. Gregory, and, notwithstanding the Canon's warning, we are compelled to say that he exhibits a wonderful degree of sympathy with these men. So with the "Monks." Here, St. Benedict is magnificently painted, and the Canon goes on to say:—

> It would be quite impossible to call before you the multitudes of noble figures with white robes and palms in their hands which would arise at the bidding of a student of history. Shall it be *St. Anselm*, after his stormy yet noble archiepiscopate, in his hour of death, like the humblest brother of his old monastery at Bec, laid on sackcloth, over which were strewed ashes in the shape of the cross, and so, amid prayers and low chants, and fervent blessings, calmly and happily breathing his last among his weeping friends? Shall it be *St. Edmund of Canterbury*, with the pallor of his beautiful countenance "growing a fair shining red," as he spoke in his lecture-room at Oxford of God and holy things; or as he sprinkled with dust the few coins, his sole possession, which lay loose in his window-sill—saying ashes to ashes, dust to dust? Or shall it be *St. Thomas Aquinas*, with his daily prayer, "Give me, O Lord, a noble heart, which no earthly affection can drag down"? Or shall it be *St. Bonaventura*, pointing in silence to his crucifix, when he was asked the source of his vast learning; and found washing the meanest vessels of his monastery, when they brought him the hat of a cardinal from Rome? Or shall it be *St. Bernardin of Siena*, whose pure and modest presence, even as a boy, hushed and overawed at once every evil word of his companions? Or shall it be a ruler like *Gregory the Great*, the son of a poor carpenter, yet towering so high in the might of conscious integrity—so utterly superior to the world by complete indifference to its interests that the guilty Emperor of Germany cowered in terror before his look, and at his feet? Or *St. Bernard of Clairvaux*, rebuking princes, upholding popes, firing all Europe to a new crusade, living in utter poverty, daily asking himself the stern question, "*Bernarde, ad quid venisti?*" "Bernard, wherefore art thou here?" These are but stray gleams from lives of steady radiance.

We say, after reading this passage, that a good many young men, with their imaginations inflamed by the Canon's eloquence, would set the life of a monk before them as one of highest excellence. So with the "early Franciscans." In the lecture on the missionaries, the Canon takes a wider range, and comes down to our own time. Many are the passages that we should like to quote, both from this and other lectures, but in justice to the lecturer we must quote one notwithstanding its length,—

> There are many, many lessons, my brethren, on which I have not even touched, which yet spring immediately from the contemplation of these noble and saintly lives during nineteen centuries at which, by the good hand of God upon us, we have, on these five Thursdays together glanced;—lessons of self-denial, lessons of patience, lessons of self-conquest, lessons of mastery over the world in the might of unarmed holiness. But I must say one word of one truth deeply needed now—the lesson of the essential unity of the faith in men as unlike each other as the crusading warrior-king and the consumptive Puritan clergyman; as unlike as Benedict the monk and Brainerd the Calvinist; as unlike as the high-born Jesuit, Sir Francis Xavier, and the unsuccessful cobbler, William Carey; as unlike as the poetic Heber in his lawn sleeves, and the squalid St. Antony in his sheepskin cloak. Yet all these, so utterly unlike each other in particular beliefs, in outward practices—all these, though some of them, had they lived at the same period, would have consigned one another to the thumbscrew and the stake, were yet all like each other, for they were all like their common Lord. Each of them was like a bright planet in the firmament of human goodness, sparkling with a different lustre, but each irradiated by one common sun. Adoniram Judson, the American missionary, tells us how God had never refused him one fervent prayer, in almost the same words as St. Dominic the mediæval Spaniard; and Henry Martyn writes of happiness, in the midst of disease and failure, in the same tone as Francis Xavier and Henri Lacordaire. Yes, all these were one—all one in Christ; the hermit, the monk, the Papist, the fanatic, the mendicant, the Jesuit, the inquisitor, had not only one Lord, one baptism, one God and Father of them all, who was above all, and through all, and in them all, but even essentially *one* faith with the English athlete, and the stern Calvinist, and the American Puritan, and the passionate Reformer. Faith—faith in the unseen—faith in God, faith in Christ, and that faith leading to infinite self-denial, and working by incessant love, that was the secret of their common holiness, that is the lesson of their common example. Alas, for the mutual hatreds, and miserable feuds, in the little lives of men! St. Carlo Borromeo, sweeping to the cathedral at Milan in grand procession, in the splendid robe of a cardinal, but by the trickling drops of blood on the marble pavement revealing, against his will, that his feet were bare over

* *Saintly Workers.* Five Lenten Lectures. By FREDERIC W. FARRAR, D.D., &c. (Macmillan and Co.

the sharp flints beneath his scarlet robe, would have consigned an Eliot or Carey to the dungeon or the stake. Henry Martyn or John Williams would have regarded as votaries of the Beast and the False Prophet, with more of religious aversion than of Miltonic scorn, those "Eremites and Friars, white, black, and grey, with all their trumpery," whom our great poet consigns, with embryos and idiots, to the paradise of fools. But the thoughts of God are higher than men, and the ways of God are juster. For the saints who hate each other, who persecute each other, who denounce each other as heretics, who attribute to each other the worst motives, who call down on each other the indignation of God and man, Heaven opens its pitying harmonious doors; and these holders of mutually destructive opinions shall, with a smile at the old leaven of their anathematising ignorance, and a sigh, if there be sighs in heaven, for the aching hearts they caused each other on earth—shall in the light of their Father's countenance "clasp inseparable hands in joy and bliss in over measure, for ever." Yes, Heaven, we hope, will have its healing peace for the bitter dissensions even of earth's saints.

This will give the reader a suggestion of the tone of this work, but we reiterate our opinion that it was a mistake to set forth in these lectures so prominently and with such sympathy the lives of men whose influence, taking it all in all, can hardly be said to have been of benefit to the Christian Church.

*THE NEW PAUL AND VIRGINIA.**

There can be no doubt that there is much in the present aspect and aspirations of science which would easily lend itself to the purposes of the true satirist. Under its purely positivistic guise, it wholly strips the world of its poetic aspect, and reduces the deepest yearnings of the heart to mere illusions—useful, it may be, in certain educational aspects, but only as is the ladder, which must be removed as cumbersome and useless when the building has been completed. Comteism endeavours to recall under its religious phase what it had dismissed as superfluous under its scientific one, and by its doctrines of *altruism—i.e.*, living for others—and its phantasy of a life through the results of work done in an improved humanity, lays itself open to the charge of attempting to raise a lofty roof without having laid any foundation. It empties such words as God, Immortality, and the Future of all ordinary meaning, to import into them special and narrow meanings, which, like the air in toy bladders, may seem to float well in the atmosphere, but will in a crisis soon burst in the sea instead of giving support to the shipwrecked who may cling to them. In a word, the system which claims, above all others, to base itself on the clear and rigid scientific facts of life, yields itself to what are, in the eye of its own logic, mere chimeras. Under what truly positivistic conception can "Humanity" be posited as an actual and realised identity? Scepticism and mysticism not only meet here, but blend and become inseparable in the mazes of metaphysical refinement, and that under a system which professedly contemns all metaphysics. For if humanity is anything actual and apart from the life that is opened up through that idea of personal immortality, which may be said to have become the property of the civilised human mind through Christianity and other influences, it must limit itself *at any one moment of time* to the actual mass of mankind made up of the innumerable units that live upon the earth. But these units are continually passing, there is no permanence in them; a short time or a longer time suffices to remove them; and unless some personal and spiritual immortality is admitted, your humanity of one day is not your humanity of another day, but a thing in perpetual flux, as George Eliot has somewhat pathetically, if incompletely, illlustrated in the leading idea of her *Jubal* and elsewhere.

The truth is that the idea of *Humanity*, in the Positivist sense, without immortality, is the merest illusion of the imagination. When Professor Clifford says seriously that those "who can read the signs of the times read in them that the *Kingdom of Man* at hand," he utters the merest truism if he means that it is possible that man's outward condition in the earth may yet be materially improved by scientific discovery and social rearrangement, but if he means, on the other hand, that man's life is to be made more quiescent and comfortable through the quenching of those aspirations which Christianity has at once stimulated and satisfied, and which Comteism in its religion sets itself in the most fantastic and laborious way to meet, he is more inconsequent than we could well believe him to be. And then one or other of these is, we think, what alone he can mean. When Mr. Frederic Harrison writes: "We cannot even say that we shall continue to love; but we know that we shall be loved," he speaks in the truest Comtist faith. "We shall be loved" by whom? Why, by the future generations on the earth, he would say. But each of them in their turn shall cease to live, and we cannot say of them that "they shall continue to love" any more than we ourselves; and they, again, though we cannot say hat "they shall continue to love," will claim the love of the succeeding generations, and so on: certainly *the* most mechanical and unsatisfactory idea of love and immortality and altruism it is possible to develop!

Mr. Mallock—who illustrated so well in a kind of satiric extravaganza many of the tendencies of present-day culture in his "New Republic"—comes before us in this little volume as a satirist of positivism in its most striking aspects. Though he exhibits a great deal of knowledge, and the power of giving a most ludicrous setting to his conceptions of positivistic developments, yet we cannot help feeling that he has, for full effect, erred in two ways: (1.) He fails to carry along with him that grave seriousness in the invention of his incident and his treatment of it, which is essential to true satire of this kind. He writes mere burlesque, and is conscious of it. His machinery is too *outré* and exceptional, and we had almost said too evidently got-up for the occasion. We have no sooner seen his "Paul and Virginia" adrift on that desolate island than we know what is to come, and experience no surprise save in the merest details. The satire descends to a kind of broad caricature; and we do not laugh so much at the effective epigrams here and there as at the nonchalance of the writer. We feel that anything whatever could be treated in the same way; for, in spite of many proofs of high experience, there are sometimes traces of a certain irreverence. Then (2) for the purposes of a true allegorical satire, Mr. Mallock has spread his force over too wide an area. We mean that, after the manner of a mere debater, he allows himself to emphasise particular points. All sense of particular points ought to be lost in the gravity of his belief in his characters. Precisely as he is the best joker who himself remains grave when he utters the most laughable things; so the satirist who gives the impression of descending into the broad-grin over his own work sacrifices effect. Defoe's "Short Way with the Dissenters" is, perhaps, the most perfect English satire in respect of eschewing extravagances. When, for example, the Professor goes out on that first morning after the settlement in the cottage, the gravity of true satire is lost in the facility which drew the writer into the outrage on animated nature in the italicised part of the following passage—for if it is possible for *roast* pig to run about on its trotters, then truly vivisection of it is quite possible:—

> Next morning he was up betimes; and the prospects of Humanity looked more glorious than ever. He gathered some of the finest pats from the butter-tree, and some fresh French rolls from the bread-tree. He discovered a cow close at hand, that allowed him at once to milk it; *and a little roast pig ran up to him out of the underwood, and fawning on him with its trotters, said, "Come, eat me."* The Professor vivisected it before Virginia's door, that its automatic noise, which the vulgar call cries of pain, might awaken her; and he then set it in a hot dish on the table.

Swift's worst fault, in the description of the *Yahoos* for instance, arises from the lack of gravity in the incident produced, by his excessive cynicism; therefore, this part of his Gulliver fails compared with the voyages to Lilliput and Laputa, and is offensive in the measure that it is intelligible; so, in a certain respect, it is when Mr. Mallock describes to us the professor's hunt after the "Missing Link," and his satisfaction in having found not it, but one of its parasites, which he so ostentatiously dotes upon, examining it through the microscope, with Virginia close beside him till their cheeks touch.

But we are, perhaps, possibly judging the work by a too exclusive standard. Perhaps the author would claim for it no higher rank than that of a clever "take-off," a passing squib, an extravagance; and as such it must be admitted to be well worth reading. In this respect it yields itself more readily to quotation than a work of rarer quality in an artistic point of view might have done. Perhaps it would hardly be possible to give a better idea of the style of the book than by extracting these two passages, in which the Religion of Humanity is exhibited:—

> "Humanity," replied the Professor eagerly; "Humanity, that divine entity, which is necessarily capable of everything that is fine and invaluable, and is the object of indescribable emotion to all exact thinkers. And what is Humanity?" he went on more earnestly; "you and I are Humanity—you and I are that august existence. You already are all the world to me; and I very soon shall be all the world to you. Adored being, it will be my mission and my glory to compel you to live for me. And then, as modern philosophy can demonstrate, we shall both of us be significantly and unspeakably happy."
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> For a few moments Virginia merely stared at Paul. Suddenly she turned quite pale, her lips quivered, and exclaiming, "How dare you!—and I, too, the wife of a bishop!" she left the room in hysterics.
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> The Professor could make nothing of this. Though he had dissected many dead women, he knew very little of the hearts of live ones. A sense of shyness overpowered him, and he felt embarrassed, he could not tell why, at being thus left alone with Virginia. He lit a cigar and went out. Here was a to-do indeed, he thought. How would progress be possible if one half of Humanity misunderstood the other?
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> "Alas," cried Paul, "what can be done to convince one-half of Humanity that it is really devoted to the higher pleasures and does not care for the lower—at least nothing to speak of!" The poor man was in a state of dreadful perplexity, and felt well-nigh distracted. At last a light broke in on him. He remembered that as one of his most revered masters, Professor Tyndal, had admitted, a great part of Humanity would always need a religion, and that Virginia now had none. He at once rushed back to her. "Ah!" he exclaimed, "all is explained now. You cannot be in love with me, for that would be unlawful passion. Unlawful passion is unreasonable, and unreasonable passion would quite upset a system of pure reason, which is what exact thought shows us is soon going to govern the world. No! the emotions that you fancy are directed to me are in reality cosmic emotion—in other words, are the reasonable religion of the future. I must now initiate you in its solemn and unspeakably significant worship."
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> "Religion!" exclaimed Virginia, not knowing whether to laugh or cry. "It is not kind of you to be making fun of me. There is no God, no soul, and no supernatural order, and above all there is no hell. How then can you talk to me about religion?"
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> "You," replied Paul, "are associating religion with theology, as indeed the world hitherto always has done. But those two things, as Professor Huxley well observes, have absolutely nothing to do with each other. 'It may be,' says that great teacher, 'that the object of a man's religion is an ideal of sensual enjoyment, or—'"
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> "Ah!" cried Virginia, "that is my religion, Paul."
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> "Nonsense!" replied Paul; "that cannot be the religion of half Humanity, else high, holy, solemn, awful morality would never be able to stand on its own basis."

Though we have spoken frankly of what we conceive to be the faults of this work, it must not be thought that we are not fully alive to the peculiar power that is seen in it. If it lacks the delicacy of setting, and the wealth of incisive epigram shown in the "New Republic," it efficiently proves great penetration on the part of its author, and the faculty of gathering up varied impressions into a single focus, and flashing grotesque lights upon them. If our readers wish to fill up a pleasant hour, in which they will at once gain knowledge and be amused, let them take up Mr. Mallock's "New Paul and Virginia."

*SHORT'S SERMONS.**

Spiritual insight, ripe fulness of thought, thorough honesty, large sympathy, are the characteristics of Mr. Short's volume of sermons, which have the additional merit of clear and concise expression. Mr. Short is a thinker, thinking with deliberation, setting down his thoughts in calm and well-arranged order. Every one of the eighteen sermons before us is so marked, but some have more colour and warmth than others. You feel, as you read, that you are in the hands of a teacher who has seized, to a large extent, the meaning and purpose of life, as well as the meaning and purpose of the Gospel, and who so presents his thought as to stimulate the reader to a higher order of sympathy and life. Shall we say, however, that we have read these sermons with some feeling of surprise? We were not prepared to find that a large Scottish congregation could receive some of them with entire assent, as we must conclude that the congregation of Ward Chapel, for the most part, has done. There is a theological breadth, an absence of dogmatism, a challenge of old traditional forms, which, to say the least, is not spontaneously suggested to the mind by the associations of Scottish historic theology. Most notably is this the case with the two sermons on the "Duration of Future Punishment;" but the same spirit may be said to permeate all the other addresses. What a breadth and elevation there is in the sermon on "Delight in God's Works," dictated as it is by a feeling as different as possible from that which declares that the world is a miserable world and all the people in it only miserable beings. There is marked power again in the sermon on "The Irresistible God." In regard to breadth, and as illustrating to some extent what we have just said, we turn to the sermon on "God's Church Wider than Man's." Let us make two quotations:—

> I believe the Church is our right and natural place, if we are good men and true Christians; and I believe that it is the natural work of the Church to be foremost in teaching and in doing whatever contributes to the highest spiritual welfare of men. If she does not help men to the truest thought and inspire men to the highest action for the good of men, she has no reason for her existence; if she is not the salt of the earth and the light of the world, she is only a cumberer of the ground. But has it not been in the past, and is it not so in the present, that God, outside of the recognised

* *The New Paul and Virginia; or, Positivism on an Island.* By W. H. MALLOCH, Author of "The New Republic," &c. (Chatto and Windus.)

* *The Duration of Future Punishment and Other Sermons.* By the Rev. CHARLES SHORT, M.A., Ward Chapel, Dundee. (James Clarke and Co.)

Church, has a sacramental host of elect men, who are doing some of the greatest spiritual work for the world? Other sheep He has which are not of this fold. Some of these have maintained an outward connection with the Church, and some have not, though the Church has not very warmly identified itself with them—often ashamed of them as men of ideal aims—daring innovators in thought and action who transgressed the lines of prudence and respectability. They have worked alongside the Church rather than with it. Wilberforce and Clarkson did not get the hearty sympathy and support of the Church in their movement for the abolition of slavery till their cause was triumphant; William Knibb frightened the Baptist Missionary Society out of their propriety, by his bold adherence to the cause in Jamaica, till the slaves were actually liberated, and then they applauded him as a hero. Who are the true prophets of this generation, who inspire the thought, and purify the personal and social aims of the English-speaking people? who most truly kindle our moral enthusiasm, and help us most to believe in Divine things? For the most part they are men upon whom the Church looks askance, whose creeds are wider than ours, and whose faith in Christ is considered doubtful.

Mr. Short goes on to say that the Church of God is evermore in need of constant renewal and reconstruction. Then, after a reference to Jewish and Reformation times,—

And what shall we say to the cry in our day? Why this. That if, on the one hand, the religion of Christ depended on the Roman Syllabus propounded by the Pope, or upon all that is contained in the Thirty-nine Articles of the English Prayer-book, or upon all that is contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith; if it depended on Calvinism or any other existing "ism," or upon some prevalent interpretations of the Bible; or if, on the other hand, it depended on our continued ignorance of the facts of the physical universe, or upon the hasty verdicts of the physical dogmatist, or upon the reverence and moral nature of such men as Professor Clifford: if the religion of Christ depended upon any or all of these things, then we might tremble for its continued existence, and fear that it was upon the point of going out for all the future.

We should like to quote, in further illustration of our remarks, from "The Work of the Spirit in Modern Life," and from "Christian Evolution"; but space forbids, for we have briefly to call attention to the sermons which give the title to this volume. As to the subject of future punishment the preacher shirks no difficulty. He says that the most formidable one is that "the Scriptures on the face of them do really seem to teach two contradictory doctrines." All the passages, with their apparent contradictions, he sets before the reader. Having done this, he goes on to say:—

How can we explain this apparent contradiction—"Few finding the way of life, and yet in Christ all made alive—God's elect a little flock, and yet all the kindreds of the earth blessed in Abraham's seed—mercy upon all, and yet eternal punishment—the restitution of all things, and yet eternal destruction—the wrath of God for ever, and yet all things reconciled to Him—eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, and yet the destruction through death, not of the works of the devil only, but of him who has the power of death, that is, the devil—the second death and the lake which burneth with fire, and yet no more death or curse, but all things subdued by Christ and God all in all, death and hell being destroyed by being cast into the lake of fire"?

The strange thing is that this contradictory language should come out of the same mouths. If one inspired writer said one thing and another another, we should even then find it difficult to decide which of the two we should believe. But when our Lord Himself seems to speak of eternal punishment, and of drawing all men unto Himself; when Paul, and Peter, and John, all of them, speak in the same way, terrifying us in one place with a vision of judgment and of fiery suffering, and in another gladdening our hearts with the prospect of the whole universe reconciled and restored to God, what are we to say? We can say only one thing; that if their inspiration did not destroy the sanity of their minds, but lifted them into larger and truer views of Divine things, they must have known that they were not contradicting themselves, but were uttering harmonious truths, and that if all things were at length to become subject to Christ, that the punishments they speak of must, in some way, subserve that final result. Both the opposing statements cannot be true, for they contradict one another as they stand in the popular interpretation. If punishment be everlasting, then God will never reconcile all things to Himself; but if He shall reconcile all things to Himself, then punishment cannot be everlasting.

In connection with this Mr. Short lays great emphasis on wrong translations, *e.g.*, Matthew xxv. and Revelation xx., holding, from the actual text, that corrective punishment is meant. Of course, this is not new, but Mr. Short puts it in his own way. The line is indicated thus:—

You cannot reconcile them; it is impossible to reconcile them upon any theory but this, that the suffering which sinners will have to endure in the next world, however terrible—and the words of Scripture assure us that they will be terrible—will yet not be for ever and ever, but that a time will come when they will have accomplished their purpose, and will lead the sufferers back to God. If you reject this method of explaining how God is to become finally all in all, and how Christ is to subdue all things to Himself, there is no other method left which I can discover.

The duration, then, of future punishment will be as long, roughly speaking, as the duration of sin. I say roughly speaking, because some of the consequences of sin will remain for a season after the sin has been abandoned: just as in this life a lustful or intemperate man will suffer some of the consequences of his sin after repentance and change of life. But as soon as he changes his life his redemption begins, and with a new life a new experience comes in, and he is on his way to a nobler condition. If a man should go out of this life inveterately depraved, full of all evil passions, steeped in sin by long years of habit and indulgence, who can tell how long it will take to work repentance and change of heart in him? but, till the change is wrought, he will continue to suffer the punishment his sin has brought upon him.

Both these sermons—we have quoted only from the first—are a valuable contribution to the discussion of this great subject, and will be found to be so, whatever may be the reader's opinion respecting the author's doctrine. But if he should not agree with these, he will be thankful for the other discourses in this volume.

NEW MUSIC.

The following specimens of instrumental and vocal music have been sent to us by Messrs. Chappell and Co.:—

Six Bagatelles for the Pianoforte. By EDMOND ROGERS. A series of short and easy pieces in separate numbers, with different titles, and without much pretension to originality. No. 1, entitled, "Cloudlets," is an *allegretto* in six-eight time, in G minor, modulating for a few bars into the tonic major, and slightly suggestive of Gounod's "Funeral March for a Marionette." No. 6, "Autumn Winds," is another *allegretto* in G minor, in three-four time, and contains a simple but pleasing melody with a *staccato* accompaniment. These two numbers we consider the best of the series. The others are respectively termed "Twilight Dreams," "Slow March," "Cymbeline" (a mazurka), and "L'Invitation pour la Valse." This last, while boldly adopting the title of a well-known work of Weber's, vividly recalls the still more familiar piece known as "Weber's Last Waltz." We fear that it would be too much to expect Messrs. Chappell to afford us an opportunity of hearing any of these pieces at their "Monday Popular Concerts," but for occasions when, as a last resource for relieving the dulness which so often pervades the social gatherings of good people, it is proposed to "have a little music" we should consider them sufficiently suitable. In that direction they may find a large circulation.——*Three Aquarelles for the Pianoforte.* By G. I. VAN EYKEN. The word "Aquarelle" is one with which we had not previously met in musical nomenclature; but it no doubt has to do with water, and is suggestive of purling fountains and cooling streams. The publication of this little work during the present broiling weather has thus been a happy thought. The three trifles, though short, simple, and easy of execution, show the hand of a master. The first, a "humoresque," *allegretto vivace*, in E minor, has for its principal feature a series of short *arpeggios* of semiquavers for the two hands alternately; but this is the only direct watery suggestion we notice. No. 2 is a melody in E major, *andante con moto*, in common time, smooth and almost devotional in character. No. 3 is an impromptu in G, *allegretto scherzando*, in three-four time, to which the frequent introduction of triplets on the common chord of the tonic and that of the relative minor, imparts a bright and cheerful character.——*Cradle Song* (for pianoforte). By COTSFORD DICK. The composer of this piece is to be commended for his good sense in giving its title in plain English, instead of the French equivalent commonly employed. As might be expected, it is in six-eight time, and though it opens with a phrase with which a litany which we happen to know also commences, the coincidence is not without precedent, and is quite pardonable. It is written in the key of C major, and though full of flowing melody, is by no means of the tame and insipid character which some might expect in a cradle song; on the contrary, it abounds in pleasing modulation, as for example that into E major in the eleventh bar, returning to a cadence on the tonic five bars further on. Later, we have three pages in A flat, and after a graceful transition, the movement concludes with a few more bars in the opening key.——*Romanesque.* By COTSFORD DICK. This piece shows the same composer at home in a more severe school. It is somewhat in the gavotte style, and opens in A minor, *alla capella* time, *allegro assai*. This spirited movement is succeeded by an episode in the tonic major, two-four time, *con grazia*, after which a resumption of the opening movement for a few bars brings the work to a close.——*Golden Dreams:* Valse de Salon. By RICHARD F. HARVEY. This waltz, in A flat, with the conventional episodes in the dominant and subdominant, will be found a welcome addition to the repertoire of pianists who delight in dance music, and do not desire to overtax their powers of execution.

The Stile at the End of the Lane. Words by ROBERT JAMES BLYTH, music by EDWARD SOLOMON. A song of the ordinary drawing-room type. They sat on the stile and told their childish love. Later, on, the village bells rang, and they walked in bliss through the stile to the church. But a sad change must come, because death is the stile at the end of life's lane, though the reasons for the sadness do not appear. The music corresponds—*allegretto*, six-eight time. Compass D to F.——*The Song-bird and the Rose.* Words by WALTER EGERTON, music by W. F. TAYLOR. Another harmless piece of sentiment. A bird, sitting in the willow tree, sings his love to the rose growing on the bank of the brooklet. The rose sighs and blushes a deeper red, the lily on the stream raises her head, the brooklet hums *its* song, the sun looks smiling on, the neighbouring birds raise *their* song, and that is all. The only mischief is that "sun" is made to rhyme with "hum," and "green" with "stream." The music is again *allegretto*, six-eight time. Compass C to F.——*This Bonny Lass o' Mine.* Words by HUGH CONWAY, music by JOSEPH L. ROECKEL. The sentiment of this song is healthy and genuine as far as it goes. The lady has no title, nor property, nor jewels, nor silk attire; only powerful personal attractions. Higher excellences would perhaps have been enumerated had the poem been longer. The music is in common time, bold, spirited, and well adapted for a manly baritone voice. Compass B flat to E flat or F, *ad libitum.*——*Over the Dancing Sea.* Another spirited song, by the same writer and composer. A lady calls for winds, not only fair, but also strong, to bring home her sailor love, and the words and music are full of the healthy and vigorous life suggestive of a good fresh sea breeze—*allegretto spiritoso*, six-eight time; compass, C to F or G, *ad libitum*; well suited to a good mezzo-soprano.——*A Song for the Land I love.* Words by F. LANGBRIDGE. Music by W. SMALLWOOD. This is a "patriotic" song, but free from the mischievous bluster which has characterised so many recent productions of that class. It is set to a bold melody in C, common time, somewhat in the "Hearts of Oak" style. Compass, E to E.——*The Birthday of the Flowers.* Duet. Words by FRED ENOCH. Music by HENRY SMART. The name of this composer is sufficient guarantee that no work to which it is attached will be found to be twaddle. That before us is a pleasing and effective duet for soprano and contralto or baritone. The subject is earth's rejoicing in the spring and early summer, and the music, *allegretto moderato*, in nine-eight time, is appropriately bright and sunny.——*Adieu.* Words by T. CARLYLE, music by AGNES ZIMMERMANN. We commend this talented pianiste and composer's setting of Mr. Carlyle's verses to such as believe, with us, that the true function of music is to intensify emotion of every kind and that, if it is to exercise a healthy influence on its votaries, they must allow it to illustrate the sadder as well as the happier experiences of life. The music is in D minor, *allegro*, common time, compass D to F. It hardly need be added that Miss Zimmermann has treated the subject worthily.——*Without Thee.* Words translated from the German by MARIA XIMENA HAYES, music by IGNAZ BRULL. This song will possess a special interest for those who remember its composer's pianoforte performances during his stay with us early in the musical season just closed. The words, which are given in German as well as English, apostrophise an absent lover, and the music, for a composer of the modern German school, is natural and tuneful. It is in three-eight time, *molto moderato*, in G minor, but closes rather boldly, with a perfect cadence in the tonic major. The compass is D to E flat.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Nature's Laws. Some New Ideas Concerning Them. By Professor WALSH. (Argyle-street, W.) In these modern days "new ideas" are at a premium, and are sure to find many persons ready to receive them, whether they be true or not. The "new ideas" in this pamphlet are intended to illustrate the principles of absorption in the curing of disease by means of the well-known Holman pad. The curious may find something to interest and possibly instruct them in this publication, which we understand they can receive free from the professor.

A Handbook of Public Meetings, by GEO. F. CHAMBERS, F.R.A.S., (Stevens and Son) is an admirably complete and careful statement respecting the duties of chairmen, clerks, the rules of debate, &c., with a summary of reported legal cases relating, and some good practical hints. Mr Chambers does not exaggerate when he says in the title-page that the information contained in this handy and valuable little volume will be found "useful to the clergy, to corporations, local boards, all classes of local authorities, and public companies." We have gone carefully through the contents, but

although Mr. Chambers invites suggestions, we cannot make one that would be likely to improve his work.——*Home to God: a Guide on the Way*, by SAMUEL PEARSON, M.A., of Liverpool (Religious Tract Society) will be found to be full of wise, thoughtful, tender counsel and suggestion to those who wish to find the way of salvation. Doddridge's "Rise and Progress" is, we are afraid, very little read now. This little work—and it is saying much, but not too much to say so—may well supply its place. We have been especially pleased with the chapters "How to be Saved from Sin," "Harmony with God," and "God's Perpetual Presence."——*Character and Work*, by W. R. CLARK, M.A., Prebendary of Wells and Vicar of Taunton (W. Wells Gardner) is the work of a man of culture, devoutness, and strong Christian purpose. Some things in it remind us of Foster's essay on "Decision of Character"; but the style is altogether different, the matter fresher and more tersely put. When we give a list of the contents, and add that each subject is admirably treated, we shall have said the best we can. 1. On the Acquisition of Knowledge. 2. On the Formation of Opinion. 3. On the Formation of Character. 4. On Conduct and Manner. 5. On Doing Our Own Work in the World. 6. On Doing all to the Glory of God.——*My First Love* (Morgan and Scott), by Dr. JAMES CULROSS, has some reflections upon the message to the Church at Ephesus. There are some admirable observations (p. 32) on the craving after sensuous emotion.——*Elva*, a Story of the Dark Ages, by Viscount DE FIGANIERE, G.C. St. Anne, &c. (Trübner and Co.), is a somewhat ambitious attempt to put into verse a weird Basque legend. It has strength; here and there are some good lines, and the English is remarkably pure.—There is nothing remarkable in the little work, *Thoughts on Life and Godliness*, by the Rev. EVAN H. HOPKINS, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Richmond (Hodder and Stoughton), but the thoughts may refresh and strengthen.——*The Living Saviour*, by the Rev. JOHN BAIRD RADFORD, Free Church, Forres (James Nisbet and Co.) has a healthy and vigorous tone. Mr. Baird says, "There is now everywhere manifest, on the part of the Christian Church, an intense concentration of thought on Christ. Christian life and literature are more pregnant with His name." This is ten times better (and truer) than the moaning about rationalism, the decay of the Churches, &c.——*The Romish Mass and its Kindred Doctrines*, by THOMAS MILLS (Elliot Stock) conveys a good deal of information, and has some good argument, but is altogether too dogmatic in style. *Little Lays for Little Lips* (W. Wells Gardner), with illustrations by H. J. A. MILES, contains some of the choicest of Christian poetry for children, with some very tenderly-conceived and finely-drawn etchings. We are not surprised to see that this little work has reached a fourth edition.——Messrs. Ward, Lock, and Co. have rendered great service in issuing a cheap edition of *Butler's Analogy of Religion* and *Paley's Evidences*, either of which, admirably printed, can be possessed for a shilling. These are the first volumes of the "Christian Knowledge Series," which is to include the standard works of the great Christian writers.

DISBANDING OF THE ARMY RESERVES.—A special army circular has been issued by the Secretary of State for War, notifying the Queen's order that the services of the army and militia reserves will not be required after July 31. Preparations are being made at Aldershot for a review to be held by the Duke of Cambridge. About 14,000 men will be paraded on the occasion, the last on which the reserves will be present until their services shall be again required. The army reserve men will be given railway or other warrants to their homes, and the militia reserve to their headquarters.

FLOWERS OF ELOQUENCE.—A German editor has been making a collection of mixed metaphors. "We will," cried an inspired Democrat, "burn all our ships, and with every sail unfurled steer boldly out into the ocean of freedom!" Justice Minister Hye, in 1848, in a speech to the Vienna students, impressively declared:—"The chariot of the Revolution is rolling along and gnashing its teeth as it rolls." A Pan-Germanist Mayor of Rhineland corporation rose still higher in an address to the Emperor. He said:—"No Austria, no Prussia, one only Germany, such were the words the mouth of your Imperial Majesty has always had in its eye." Professor Johnnes Scherr, in a criticism on Lenau's Lyrics, writes:—"Out of the dark regions of philosophical problems the poet suddenly lets swarms of songs dive up carrying far-flashing pearls of thought in their beaks." Count Frankenberg, a few years ago pointed out to his countrymen the necessity of "Seizing the stream of time by the forelock"; and in the last session he told the Minister of War that if he really thought the French were seriously attached to peace, he had better resign office and "Return to his paternal oxen."

SUMMER WORK OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

MR. FISHER IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

During the past week Mr. Fisher has addressed a very successful series of meetings in Buckinghamshire, under the auspices of the Aylesbury and district branch of the Liberation Society.

QUAINTON.—On Monday evening of last week there was a large gathering of the inhabitants of this and neighbouring parishes, including the resident clergyman officiating as chairman. Whilst some friends were singing the hymn, "Hold the fort," the people gathered around the old stone cross on the top of the green, from which admirable position the chairman, briefly, and the lecturer for rather more than an hour, addressed them. Mr. Fisher having alluded to the manysidedness of this great national question, too vast to be embraced in one address, said that the line of thought he should pursue would be to show that disestablishment would be a blessing to the Church herself. This view he ably supported by passing in brief but clear review some of the many evils and abuses endured by Churchmen, and which by the connection of their Church with the State they were utterly powerless to remedy. He argued that everything that was good and noble and true in the Church would continue after disestablishment, and have fuller scope for its development, and that that which is bad, unfaithful, untrue, would decline and rapidly pass away. He instanced the beneficial results to which candid English clergymen have felt compelled to bear unwilling testimony, which have followed the disestablishment of the Church in Ireland. Under the present system of the sale and purchase of livings, and the right of presentation to livings possessed by private individuals, the best men were most frequently passed over, and men who were often wholly unfitted for the position, some of whom could not creditably read a sermon which they had not themselves written, but which had cost them half-a-crown, received the living, and the parishioners had no redress. If promotion by merit were good for the Army and Navy and Civil Service, why should it not be good for the Church? Disestablishment was the only means of getting promotion by merit and other equally needed reforms carried out; and thus by disestablishment the Church herself would be abundantly blessed. The large audience listened most attentively, evidently appreciating the telling points of the address. As no one accepted the invitation of Mr. Fisher, repeated by the chairman, to make any opposing remarks, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow" was heartily sung, when the meeting broke up.—*Bucks Advertiser*.

GREAT MISSENDEN.—The meeting here was held in the open air on Tuesday evening, and was much better attended by the working classes than might have been expected. Mr. A. P. Scrivener presided, and in the course of his remarks contended that the Established Church needed freedom from the control and patronage of the State for the full development of its power and influence for good. Mr. John Fisher, one of the secretaries of the Liberation Society, then addressed the meeting, and for upwards of an hour was listened to with marked attention and appreciation by the audience. No one responding to the invitation to make any opposing remarks or to ask any questions, a vote of thanks to Mr. Fisher was carried by acclamation, and the meeting quietly dispersed.

WADDESDON.—The third of a series of meetings came off at Waddesdon on Wednesday evening, when Mr. R. Dickins introduced the lecturer to an audience of considerable numbers, assembled on the green in the middle of the village. The Rev. T. J. Williams was present. Mr. Fisher told his audience that the Liberationists wanted their votes for the disestablishment of the Church, as soon as the franchise was extended to them, and explaining the objects of the movement he was advocating, he asked the villagers to take the description of the work of the Liberation Society from his lips, and not from those of the foes of the association. By these, he said, it had been represented that they wanted to pull the Church of England to pieces. It was not so. They recognised most cheerfully the blessed work that was being effected by the clergy of the land, and if he thought any advocacy of his would weaken the Church of England as a great educational power, he should be silent. But what they contended was that their objects, if carried out, would strengthen the Church and not weaken it, would purify and not corrupt it. They were seeking simply to disestablish it. The Irish Church had been disestablished in 1869, and they heard nothing now of the sale of livings. Let them also disestablish the Church of England, and it would be found all the better and all the stronger for the change. A vote of thanks to the lecturer closed the meeting.

LOOSLEY ROW.—Mr. Fisher lectured here on Thursday evening to an excellent audience in the Baptist Chapel, Mr. B. North in the chair. After the lecture, which was attentively listened to throughout, Mr. H. B. Reed, of the Church Defence Institution, opposed, and met with a fair hearing. Mr. Fisher replied at length, and to the evident satisfaction of his hearers. Unanimous votes of thanks were passed, and the meeting closed at a late hour.

WESTON TURVILLE.—On Friday evening the last of the series of meetings was held in a field kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. A. P. Scrivener. Mr. Thomas Crawley, of Southend, presided. After Mr. Fisher had spoken at length, Mr. Reed again opposed, and indulged in a series of imputations as to the real intentions of the Liberation Society. Mr. Fisher took him to task with considerable and deserved severity, and Mr. Reed withdrew his offensive remarks. After a protracted discussion, the meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, the feeling of the audience being unmistakably with the lecturer. All the villages visited have had suitable Liberation literature left at every house.

THE REV. CHAS. WILLIAMS AT KIDDERMINSTER.

On Monday evening of last week a crowded meeting was held in the Town Hall to listen to a lecture by the Rev. C. Williams, of Accrington, in reply to the one delivered last week by Mr. Reed, of the Church Defence Association, on "Our National Church; what it is, what it does, and who pays for it." Mr. George Turton, J.P., presided, and amongst those present on the platform were the Revs. T. Fisk and A. Flower, Alderman Holloway, Messrs. A. H. Greaves, S. P. Wills, Parry, J. P. Harvey, Woodhouse, Ward, Broome, Huggins, &c. Mr. George Hastings, organising agent of the Liberation Society, was also present. Just as the proceedings were about to commence, Mr. Reed—accompanied by Mr. S. Tovey—entered the hall, and took seats near the orchestra. A very large number of Churchmen were present, including the Rev. L. S. Cheshire, Mr. H. T. Woodward, and others. The Chairman spoke, and the Rev. C. Williams on rising was loudly cheered. He delivered an ample and exhaustive reply to Mr. Reed, the report of which occupies five columns of the *Kidderminster Shuttle*. At the close Mr. Reed rose, and a brief discussion was held, which was ended in an effective speech by Mr. Williams. A vote of thanks was then passed.

Next evening, we may say, Mr. Reed lectured in reply, when there was great confusion. Mr. Hastings, the Liberation Society's agent in this district, rose to reply, but was much interrupted. The following scene then took place:—

Mr. Hastings protested to the Mayor against such interruptions. Some gentlemen on the platform did not understand the respect which was due to one who was invited by the chairman to that platform. Why should attempts be made by persons supposed to be cultured to close his lips? They were not to suppose that Liberationists were seeking—as Mr. Reed has said—to set class against class. (Cries of "Oh, no, of course not," and laughter.) It had been declared by a great authority that the Church of England was out of harmony with the age in which we lived. (Voices: "Who said so?") Mr. John Bright—(cheers and groans, which continued for some time)—and what John Bright had said the nation would shortly endorse. He maintained——

The noise created by a small section of the audience was so great—groans, cock-crowing, mewing, whistling, and howling mingling together, that Mr. Hastings could not proceed.

The Mayor attempted to obtain a hearing, but failed.

Having waited for some moments for order to be restored, Mr. Hastings left the platform with the remark that he protested against such rowdyism.

Mr. Reed then rose to reply, but his reception was a turbulent one, and, being unable to make himself heard, he addressed some remarks to the reporters. He charged Mr. Hastings with having misrepresented the opinions expressed by Lord Melbourne and Lord Palmerston, and proceeded to quote from speeches made by those statesmen, but it was clear beyond a doubt that Mr. Reed was quoting from entirely different speeches to those from which Mr. Hastings had taken his extracts. The Rev. — Kershaw moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was seconded by Mr. S. Tovey, and carried. Mr. Reed, in reply, called for cheers for the Mayor, and three cheers for "the good old Church of England." The meeting broke up in great confusion, and a mob surrounding Mr. Hastings in the hall, the police came to his assistance and escorted him into the waiting-room. When the hall was partially cleared Mr. Reed asked those who remained to sing the "National Anthem," and his wish having been gratified he left the hall in company with his friends.

OTHER MEETINGS.

OLD HILL, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Thursday, July 18, Mr. G. Hastings, by special invitation, addressed a closely-packed meeting in the Tabernacle Schoolroom, Mr. R. Green presiding. Mr. Hastings dwelt upon the citizens' right to religious equality, the injustice inflicted upon a large proportion of our best citizens under the existing Establishment, and quoted from the statements of the Bishop of Adelaide at the Pan-Anglican Synod, showing how forcibly Episcopalians, when freed from State patronage and control, realise that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

NORTHAM.—A HOT RECEPTION.—We copy the account of the following extraordinary proceedings from the *Western Morning News* of July 20:—

On Thursday evening a meeting was announced to take place at Bone-hill, Northam, in advocacy of the separation of Church and State. Mr. Causey, a deputation from the Liberation Society, and the Rev. J. Shaw, Congregational minister, of Torrington, were expected to address the meeting. Long before the meeting commenced a number of men were seen loitering about, and at the time named some hundreds had assembled on Bone-hill.—Mr. WALSALL, a gentleman of independent means, was voted to the chair, and, without any speech, introduced the deputation. Mr. Causey had only just got on one of the seats to address the meeting when he was assailed by a shower of nuts, followed by hooting and hissing. In vain he essayed to speak; the noise and uproar increased, and, to add to the din and confusion, the ringers got at the church bells, almost close by, and commenced a discordant clash, which was almost deafening, followed by a

muffled peal. Mr. Causey stuck gamely to his post, backed by a small band of supporters. The more, however, he endeavoured to speak the greater the tumult. At length loud cries arose of "Make room for Charley." A lane was made through the crowd, and Mr. Charles Chapple appeared, backed by a stalwart supporter. He mounted the seat, and commenced to harangue the crowd, denouncing the deputations of the society as heretics and schismatics, and disturbers of the peace. He spoke amid loud cheers, and cries, "Go it, Charley," "Give it to 'em," "At 'em again, Charley," until exhausted. Mr. Causey again attempted to address those present, but the crowd was too excited to listen, and fresh tumult arose, several persons attempting to speak at the same time. This lasted a considerable time, and until the crowd began to hustle in its frolic and excitement. A cry then arose, "Let's pitch the —— out." No sooner suggested than the mob began to act. The Liberationists for a time stuck together, and did their best to withstand their assailants; but showers of nuts and other missiles soon made them give ground. A woman seized Mr. Shaw by the collar, and took off his hat, which was kicked about by the crowd, and a general stampede took place. The Liberationists rushed, hoping for friendly shelter, to some houses near by, but the doors were closed in their faces, and they had to run for it up the village pursued by a hooting crowd, who pelted them with various missiles, and the pursuit was continued some distance on the road to Bideford. The ringers then gave a funeral peal.

Large and important meetings have just been held by Mr. Lummis. On Tuesday MARCH was visited, and in the market-place a good audience gathered, who rendered a most attentive hearing to the lecturer.

On Wednesday, Mr. M. Taylor presided over a meeting of labourers at WISBEACH ST. MARY. Slightly opposed.

On Thursday and Friday HORBLING and HELPRINGHAM, contributed two good meetings—the first presided over by Mr. Toomes, and the other by Mr. W. Taylor.

ECCLESIASTICAL MISCELLANY.

DECORATION OF ST. PAUL'S.—At a meeting of the St. Paul's Cathedral Completion Fund Committee it was agreed to adorn the interior of the dome with mosaic, and in order to try the effect of the proposed treatment the whole surface of the dome will be at once covered with paper bearing representations in colour of the suggested designs. The scheme excites much adverse criticism.

THE IRISH INTERMEDIATE EDUCATION BILL.—A large number of the dignitaries of the Church of Ireland, headed by the Archbishop of Dublin and the Bishops of Meath, Killaloe, Derry, and Limerick, have addressed a memorial to Lord Beaconsfield in favour of including girls in the awards proposed by the Government Bill on Irish Intermediate Education. The memorialists propose that separate examinations at local centres to be settled by the Commissioners under the Act should be held.

Bishop Gregg, of the Reformed Episcopal Church, has just received from residents, including officers of the military and civil services, in Ceylon (diocese of Colombo), a formal address expressive of "thankfulness" for the existence of the Reformed Episcopal Church, and an urgent request that he would "consider the evils from which we suffer, and so, by some Christian counsel, help many," who "would welcome with joy a return to the earnest and pious spirit of the early Christian churches." This is the second application which Bishop Gregg has very recently received from far distant dependencies of the British Crown.

THE REUNION OF CHRISTENDOM.—A meeting, convened by the Association for the Promotion of the Unity of Christendom, was held on Thursday night at the Westminster Palace Hotel, under the presidency of the Bishop of Fredericton. Amongst those present were the Rev. H. N. Oxenham, the Rev. Dr. Lee, the Rev. Dr. Irons, the Rev. Dr. Littledale, Mr. J. D. Chambers, Mr. Willis Nevins, and Mr. C. W. Wilshere. It was stated that letters expressing regret at being unable to attend had been received from the Earl of Limerick, and the Bishops of Barbadoes, Bloemfontein, Bombay, Albany, and Bishop Jenner; and the Revs. Malcolm MacColl and John Oakley. The resolutions passed were to the effect that the advance of the infidel movement throughout Europe, and the actual or threatened dissolution of the relations of Church and State, constitute a fresh call on all sincere believers to pray and labour earnestly for the reunion of Christians in one faith and one fold; that the accession of Pope Leo XIII., and the reawakening life of Eastern Christianity, afford at the present moment special grounds for renewed energy and hope; and that the serious obstacles to mission work at home and abroad caused by the division of Christians render it incumbent on all persons to labour, as well as pray, for the restoration of visible unity.

THE LAMBETH CONFERENCE. — The bishops attending the Lambeth Conference have for the last fortnight been engaged on the various committees which were appointed during the earlier sessions of the conference. On Monday they reassembled at Lambeth Palace for general discussion. After prayers in the palace chapel, the consideration of subject No. 6, which had been adjourned from the last meeting, was resumed—viz., "The condition, progress, and needs of the various Churches of the Anglican communion." The Bishops of Niagara, Rupertsland, Montreal, and Fredericton, spoke upon the condition of the Canadian Church; the Bishop of Adelaide and Bishop Perry upon the Church in South Australia and Victoria; the Bishops of Long Island and Delaware upon the Church in the United States; the Bishops of Haiti and Western New York upon the Church of Haiti; the Bishops of Kingston and Guiana upon the West Indian Church; and the Bishop of Christchurch upon the Church of New Zealand. The following also took part in the discussion:—The Bishop of Lincoln, the Bishop of Peterborough, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishop of Llandaff. The conference will sit daily until Friday next to receive and consider the reports of the committees upon the various subjects which have been under discussion. On Saturday next there will be a concluding service in St. Paul's Cathedral, which will be attended by the bishops in their robes. The service, which begins at eleven a.m., will consist of the Holy Communion, with a sermon by Bishop Stevens, of Pennsylvania.

ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL CHURCH.—In these days of disestablishment it is certainly surprising to hear that one of the most advanced Liberal Governments in Europe, that of the City and Republic of Basel in Switzerland, was occupied at the end of last month with the concluding details of the establishment and endowment of a *Landeskirche*, or National Church. The majority of the population of the city of Holbein and Œcolampadius, as most persons know, is Protestant, inclining to a Lutheran rather than a Zwinglian type (as in the eastern cantons), or to a Calvinistic type (as in the western cantons). Immigration from Alsace and other sources has largely increased the number of Catholic citizens, and these are divided into Roman and Old Catholics. The former have renounced all claim to State assistance, fearing that it will as effectually limit their schemes as it has done in other cantons, although they have accepted for the city of Basel the grant of the old church of St. Clara in Klein-Basel. The Old Catholics have no such scruples. They number about 3,000 in the city itself. The State has given them the magnificent Prediger-Kirche (Church of the Dominicans), which has for long years been a warehouse, or set of warehouses; it has been nobly restored at State cost by the city architect. The law establishing and endowing the Old Catholic community, according to the testimony of Herr Philippi, their representative, provides every guarantee for the wholesome liberty of the Church. A Catholic Church Council is elected by the members of the community (who must be citizens of the canton or legalised settlers), and this Church Council elects the Church Committee and the clergy. As a pledge for the right of the State, two members appointed by the Government have seats with the thirteen members elected by the Church Council. This committee has complete authority in all purely ecclesiastical affairs—which are specified as ordering of divine worship and religious instruction. The Great Council of Canton reserves a veto in certain cases. In all Church affairs of a mixed character—payment of the clergy, administration of Church property, and the like—a yearly report has to be delivered to the Great Council. The income of the priests has been fixed at 3,500 francs a year and a free house, or 1,000 francs yearly as an equivalent.—*Weekly Review.*

WORKING OF THE PATRONAGE ACT IN SCOTLAND.—The Edinburgh correspondent of the *Times* writes on the 13th inst.:—A decision given this week by Lord Young, in a case raised under the Patronage Abolition Act, 1874, completely shatters the dream that that Act gave spiritual independence to the Church of Scotland. Lord Young affirms that the patronage recently transferred from lay patrons to congregations—that is, communicants on the "roll"—is purely a civil right, exercised under an Act of Parliament and liable to the jurisdiction of the civil courts. The facts of the case, which this decision renders extremely important, may be briefly told. The parish of New Deer became vacant in December, 1875. The Act allows a congregation six months within which to make an appointment—in this case till June, 1876. In that month the congregation elected a minister, but in October of the same year he resigned the appointment. Supposing him to have been duly inducted into the charge the congregation would again have six months in which to look out for a pastor—that is, till April, 1877. Serious disputes, however, occurred, which were referred to the general assembly. In June, 1877, the Assembly resolved to allow the congregation another six months from that date to make an appointment. One month later fifty new members joined the congregation and claimed the right of taking part in the election. This claim was refused, on the ground that the "Communion roll" had been made up in accordance with the rules of the General Assembly before they joined; and the last General Assembly confirmed the refusal. Hence the action referred to above, in which the excluded parishioners asked to have it declared that all proceedings subsequent to their joining the Church, and especially a meeting held in October, 1877, were null and void. They have lost their case, but on grounds that cannot be gratifying to the Church and the General Assembly. Lord Young's decision is that the General Assembly acted *ultra vires* in making the extension of six months within which they wished to be allowed to exercise the ecclesiastical franchise; and that is, of course, fatal to their whole case. His lordship further maintains that the right of the congregation to fill the vacancy expired at the end of the first six months, and that ever since June, 1876, the appointment has rested with the presbytery, *jure devoluto*. The civil magistrate thus informs the General Assembly that it has acted illegally in presuming to relax rules strictly laid down by Parliament, and he informs the Presbytery of Deer that it has acted ignorantly in failing to use sooner the powers conferred on it by the Act. If this decision be upheld, as there is every reason to expect that it will be, the Church of Scotland must find itself in a very different position from that in which it fancied itself to be.

Religious and Denominational News.

THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCES.

The Wesleyan Methodists in Bradford are busily occupied in preparing for the approaching Conference. The most important preliminary work of the Conference is that of the Stationing Committee, which completed its work on Friday afternoon. It was commenced on Tuesday. The committee, which was presided over by the President, sat each day from half-past nine till one, and from half-past three till eight; no very long time to give to the work, considering that it concerned some 684 accounts and about 1,400 ministers. Owing to the itinerant system, between one-half and two-thirds of the ministers change every Conference. Including ministers and laymen, more than a thousand tickets of admission are being issued. It is expected to be a Conference of unusual interest, not only because of the presence of the laity for the first time, but also because of the subjects of special interest which will come up for consideration.

The Fernley Lecture, on the foundation of the late Mr. John Fernley, of Southport, was delivered on Monday night in Eastbrook Chapel, Bradford, to an immense audience. The chapel, one of the largest in Methodism, was crowded to excess, every available space being occupied. The subject of the lecture is the doctrine of eternal punishment, and was full of interest not only to the ministers but to the general public. Last year the subject attracted special attention in Conference from the fact that four or five young ministers could no longer subscribe to the Methodist teaching on this point, and consequently retired from the ministry. This year will witness the resignation of the chairman of one of the African districts, whose view of the doctrine of future punishment is out of harmony with the Connexional standards.

A very large congregation assembled at Manningham on Sunday morning to hear Dr. Punshon, but in consequence of indisposition the doctor was not able to take the service, his place being supplied by the Rev. D. Sandeson. Dr. Rigg will, it is expected, have a substantial majority in the vote for the presidency over the Rev. S. Coley.

The Irish Conference has just effected an amalgamation with the Irish Primitive Wesleyans, and considerable advantages are expected from this lessening of the number of Protestant sects in Ireland. The Irish reunion of Wesleyans is attracting considerable attention among the English Wesleyans, and may lead to the discussion of the question of the reunion among the different Wesleyan sects in England, of whom there are several, such as the Primitives, the New Connexion, the Bible Christians, the Methodist Free Churches, and the Methodist Reformed Church. All these sects hold the same doctrines, the same means of grace, much of the same polity, differing chiefly on the office and functions of the Christian ministry. The New Connexion comes nearest to the Old Body, and any serious attempts at amalgamation would probably begin with them. About twenty-seven ministers have died since last Conference; and since the last Bradford Conference the following, among other leading ministers, have departed this life:—Dr. Dixon, Dr. Hannah, W. L. Thornton, George T. Perks, W. M. Bunting, John Lomas, S. R. Hall, Luke Wiseman, and Dr. Waddy.

Mr. Spurgeon was at Oban on Saturday, and in a letter read to his congregation at the Metropolitan Tabernacle on Sunday he said that he was greatly refreshed by rest and change. He is to be away three weeks.

The Rev. Walter W. Jubb has retired from the pastorate of Castle Green Chapel, Bristol, where he has laboured for six years, having accepted the secretaryship of the Irish Missionary Society, in succession to the Rev. W. Tarbotton.

The Church Missionary Society appropriates nearly half of its income to work in India, where it employs 120 European missionaries. Its operations are carried on in twelve or fourteen different languages.

The Rev. T. W. Pinn, M.A., has resigned the pastorate of the church at Lymm, Cheshire, and has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Congregational Church, Wellington-road South, Stockport, to become their pastor. He hopes to enter on his ministry there on the first Sunday in September.

On Wednesday night the Rev. Dr. Davidson, of Lady Glenorchy's Free Church, Edinburgh, was presented with his bust, executed in white marble, and with several pieces of silver plate, on the occasion of the attainment of the fiftieth year of his ministry. Congratulatory addresses were delivered by several clergymen.

The Rev. John Barnes has resigned the pastorate of the Congregational Church, Fareham, Hants,

after six years' successful ministry, and accepted the cordial invitation to the church at Sutton, Surrey. This step will necessitate his retirement from the School Board, of which he is a member, at the formation of which he was returned at the head of the poll three years since.

PRESCOT.—A new Congregational church was opened in this Lancashire town on the 16th inst. The building is in the Gothic style, and will accommodate nearly 400 worshippers. The total cost of the erection will be about 2,400*l.*, the whole of which, with the exception of 800*l.*, has been realised through the untiring efforts of the congregation. The dedicatory services, which were attended by numerous congregations, were conducted by the Rev. J. G. Rogers, the Rev. W. Dick, resident minister, and other ministers of the district. The collections during the day amounted to 65*l.*

BISHOPS IN LONDON PULPITS. — On Sunday twenty-two bishops preached from metropolitan pulpits, being a decrease of twenty-three in the number who preached on the previous Sunday, when the highest aggregate — forty-five — was reached since the arrival in London of so many foreign and colonial bishops. Of the twenty-two bishops who preached yesterday there was one home prelate, Bishop Claughton, who pleaded the cause of the Infant and National Schools at St. Mark's, Myddelton-square. The rest were composed respectively of United States, Canadian, Indian, West Indian, African, New Zealand, and Chinese bishops.

RESULTS OF MISSION WORK IN SOUTH AFRICA.—A correspondent of the *Globe* says:—"Though some mission stations and a good many farmhouses have been burnt down, still it is surprising that the Kaffirs have used their power so mercifully, considering that in former wars they behaved so dreadfully—doing all the mischief they could. I am no great admirer of the Kaffirs, still I give them their due. The missionary efforts which have and are still going on amongst them have told in this war. I sincerely believe that, owing to Christian teaching, the horrors of this war have been mitigated."

THE HERTS UNION.—The Herts Union of Baptist and Independent Churches having been dissolved with the view of forming separate organisations for evangelistic purposes, it was resolved that some expression of grateful appreciation should be made to the Rev. D. Davies, B.A., of Cheshunt, of the valuable services he had rendered to the county, as secretary to the union during the fourteen years of his official labours. A meeting was held in the Congregational Church, Cheshunt, on Thursday, July 11, at which the Rev. Thomas Hill, of Finchley, presided. Letters were recieved from many brethren who were unable to be present, filled with warm acknowledgments of the generous manner in which Mr. Davies had devoted himself to the interests of the smaller churches in the county, and of his courteous and kindly sympathy with their pastors. After a devotional service, led by the Rev. James Wood, of Sawbridgeworth, and Mr. Williams, and an explanatory address by the chairman, Charles Lee, Esq., presented Mr. Davies with a cheque for 51*l.* 12*s.* as a slight tribute of the esteem and affection in which he was held by the Nonconformist Churches in Hertfordshire, and said that it consisted mainly of contributions from the rural churches, whose well-being he had done so much to help. The Rev. D. Davies responded, stating how pleased he was that, while working as a pastor in the country he had been able in any way to help his brethren and their churches, and said that, as co-secretary with the chairman that evening, in the new Congregational Union for Hertfordshire, he hoped to be able for some time, at least, to render similar service to that which they had so kindly accepted. It would be necessary for them all to do far more in the future than in the past. After short speeches by the Rev. J. Wood and the chairman, the meeting concluded with the doxology and prayer.

Bow.—On Friday, the 12th inst., being the twentieth anniversary of the inauguration of the North Bow Congregational Church, a meeting was held to present the Rev. E. Schnadhorst, the pastor, and Mrs. Schnadhorst with a testimonial of appreciation on the part of the church and congregation. Several friends who do not attend Mr. Schnadhorst's ministry also contributed. The presentations consisted of a purse of gold to Mr. Schnadhorst, a gold watch to Mrs. Schnadhorst, and an illuminated address to both. Every Evangelical denomination was represented on the platform. Amongst those present were the Revs. R. Parnell, Vicar of North Bow, E. Price, Bishop Sugden, W. Tyler, J. M. Erskine, W. Glenny Crory, J. G. Roberts, W. Whitfield, J. F. Porter, with Messrs. H. Thompson, J. Smith, R. Dawe, D. J. Deane, and others. The Rev. John Davies presided, and made an appropriate opening speech. He spoke of the importance of the work done by Mr. and Mrs. Schnadhorst in North Bow, and mentioned that the presentation about to be made would be the first sum of money received by Mr. Schnadhorst during the whole of his twenty years' pastorate. After the presentation had been made, Mr. Schnadhorst, for his wife and himself, made a suitable reply. He spoke of the twenty years' struggling he and his people had had, and expressed a hope that better times were in store for the North Bow Church. He said he was the only Congregational minister who had remained for so long a period in one charge in East London, and felt that, considering the place and the work, he had contributed to North Bow Church a long period of his ministerial life, under circumstances often very discouraging. But the occurrences of that evening cheered him much. The Vicar of North Bow (Mr. Parnell) spoke in the most brotherly terms of Mr. Schnadhorst, and expressed his gladness that such able workers for Christ were in his parish. He had come to the parish in the very year North Bow Church was commenced, and while its pastor and he had worked so near each other for so long a time they had never had a word of dispute nor a cause of quarrel between them. Bishop Sugden then spoke of an acquaintance with Mr. Schnadhorst prior to his coming to Bow, and said they were better friends now than ever. He congratulated the people on their having such a pastor, and especially on their having had the Christian offices of Mrs. Schnadhorst for so long. Similar addresses expressive of Mr. Schnadhorst's Christian work were delivered by Mr. Price, Mr. Tyler, Mr. Erskine, and others, and the meeting was closed at an early hour, every one present being gratified by the whole proceedings.

SPECIAL SERVICES FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.—On Tuesday afternoon a large number of friends and supporters of the Organisation for Conducting Special Services for the Poor and the Working Classes of London assembled, by permission of the Duke of Devonshire, in the ground of Chiswick House to hear an account given on behalf of the united committee of the work done during the past year. The gathering took place beneath the branches of two splendid cedar trees on the lawn at the back of the house, the speakers occupying a small daïs improvised for the occasion. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided. The Rev. J. C. Lloyd Harris made a brief statement, from which it appeared that the religious services in theatres, music-halls, &c., having been commenced about nineteen years ago, and been attended for a long period with great success, the movement had recently slackened and suffered for want of adequate public interest and support; and that the chief object of that assemblage was to excite renewed interest in what proved beneficial and indispensable. He also alluded to the existence of between forty and fifty mission-halls in different parts of the metropolis, which are used for kindred purposes, and made a similar appeal for them, especially mentioning the fact that the efforts made through both these agencies are undenominational. Mr. S. Morley, M.P., who was the next speaker, remarked on the growing indifference of the mass of the people to public worship, and illustrated by the fact that only about half the aggregate provision of seats in churches and chapels is occupied on Sunday, adding that if all who might attend a place of public worship were disposed to do so on any particular Sunday, there would be a deficiency of a million seats. He could testify to the great value of the services carried on under the superintendence of the committee, and he strongly wished to see the work largely extended. Addresses of a similar character were afterwards delivered by the Rev. J. Cohen, who from his former experience as rector of Whitechapel during fifteen years, warmly testified to the value and necessity of such services as had been referred to; the Rev. N. Loraine, who spoke of the good done in the populous district of St. Giles; the Rev. Neville Sherbrook, and the Rev. Mr. Sargent. Lord Shaftesbury, in some closing remarks, earnestly deprecated the discontinuance of religious services in theatres and similar places, on the ground that it was only through such mediums that the lower classes could be reached and influenced; and, in concluding, he observed that in this country the people are more governed by sympathy than by power, patronage, or authority. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to his grace the Duke of Devonshire for lending his beautiful grounds for the occasion, and to Lord Shaftesbury for presiding.

CONGREGATIONALISM IN MORLEY.—In the very centre of the manufacturing and mining districts of the West Riding of Yorkshire stands Morley, four miles from Leeds, five from Dewsbury, and seven from Wakefield and Bradford. The local historians and antiquarians of Morley love to trace her history from early mention in "Domesday Book," with shadowy intimations that she was not unknown even in Roman and Saxon times, down to the present age, enumerating the different families of distinction who have been landholders in the neighbourhood, from Dunstan the Saxon to the Websters, Asquiths, Dixons, Clarks, Smiths, Rayners, Crowthers, Hirsts, Listers, Dawsons, and Scatcherds, associated with the place, most of which are not unknown to fame in the annals of the Free Churches of Yorkshire. Since the commencement of the present century the population of Morley has increased from about 2,000 to upwards of 12,000. But the most interesting fact connected with Morley to Congregationalists is that upon the northern brow of the principal hill is being erected a handsome Congregational Church, the spire of which is a prominent object in the landscape for many a mile around. To the antiquarian the history of the several churches which have been erected upon this hallowed spot is most interesting. Here the Saxons founded a church—here has worship been conducted according to the custom of the Roman Catholics, the Episcopalians, the Presbyterians, and the Congregationalists. St. Mary's-in-the-Wood, so far as we know, is the only church in England which was not permanently restored to the Establishment after the Restoration. The cause of this appears to be that in the year 1640, the Earl of Sussex, the advowson of Morley being in his hands, sold the church and site for 500 years to trustees, "for the use and benefit of a preaching minister." Except for a few years, when it was in the hands of the Episcopalians, it was held by the Presbyterians until the commencement of the present century, when it became a regular Congregational church. A list of the ministers who have occupied the pulpit from the year 1627 to the present time is recorded, and a brief memoir of almost all of them is given in the local history. The Rev. W. F. Anderton, B.A., is now the minister. In the churchyard are some very curious old gravestones, beautifully and elaborately carved. Amongst the dead that sleep around are Dorothy, daughter of the poet Waller, ob. 1717; Lady Loughborough, wife of the Lord Chief Justice, ob. 1781; Henry Greathead, son of Major Greathead, one of the Parliamentary leaders in the Civil conflict, ob. 1718, and many ministers and laymen who were noted in their day for steadfastness of faith and staunch adherence to the truth.* Upon this spot, consecrated by the prayers and praises of Christian worshippers for nearly a thousand years, hallowed by the dust of generations of good and true men, a beautiful Congregational church is rapidly approaching completion. Those who have this noble work in hand are anxious to open their House of God free from debt. 2,000*l.* are still required to effect this good object. In the district around trade is very bad, and should any one read these lines to whom means have been given, the smallest contributions sent will be very thankfully received and acknowledged by Mr. J. A. Clapham, of Bradford.

CHRISTIAN EVIDENCE SOCIETY.—A conversazione was held on Thursday afternoon for the above society at the National Club, No. 1, Whitehall-gardens, for the purpose of hearing addresses "upon the state of unbelief in different parts of the world, and on the best way of promoting the objects of the society." The Earl of Harrowby, K.G., Chairman of the Council of the Society, presided, and there were also present Bishops Gloucester, Claughton, Perry, Antigua, Bloemfontein, and Huron; Professor Plumptre, Canon Farrar, Dr. Gladstone, Sir S. Watson, Dean Bagot, and the Rev. W. H. Barlow, Dr. Barclay, and Dr. Thornton. The chairman having opened the proceedings, called upon the Bishop of Gloucester who said that in this country at the present time infidelity or, at least, in the lighter form of scepticism, was extremely prevalent, although it seemed strange that in a land like England these baleful influences should be so largely finding their way. There were two forms in which this scepticism manifested itself, and one was the alleged great discoveries of science, a matter by no means to be made light of. Such discoveries had been made of late as would hardly have been dreamed of a few years ago, and now science was appearing to draw on certain subjects conclusions which were in direct contravention to the Word of God. In the second place, there was a large amount of scepticism drawn from the results, or the supposed results, of historical criticism. The latter had been doing sometimes useful, sometimes destructive, work, for very many years. This science had shaken seriously the faith of many in the Divine revelations which were to be found in the Book of Life. The largest class of unbelievers and doubters were those who proclaimed themselves Nihilists, &c., and persons who neither affirm nor deny anything, but simply stand and gaze. This class was a large and increasing one. In the society at present there were most hopeful signs that the positions of science which were supposed to be most detrimental to Scripture would be turned the other way, and that science would soon be made, what it always ought to have been, the servant of revealed religion. The Bishop of Bloemfontein was the next speaker, and was followed by Bishop Claughton, who said that unbelief was a phase of things which was passing away. Many persons declared themselves unbelievers who had misgivings as to what they alleged of themselves, and really believed beneath the surface; while others who joined the ranks of infidels were not infidels at all. After all, the Christian religion was the only one which gave consolation in death.—The Bishop of Huron followed, and related examples of the spread of Gospel truth among the Indian communities in his diocese. In conclusion, he said he had deep sympathy with the society, although he had not been officially connected with it. Its importance could not be over-estimated when it made efforts to strengthen the faith of those who had begun to doubt, and to increase that of believers.—Professor Redford said the unbelief of the present day was the result of activity of intellect and easy access to information of all kinds. Writers in magazines frequently touched on points suggestive of unbelief; consequently a large number of persons came in contact with superficial objections to revealed religion, but, having no time to go deeply into a subject, in their overhaste and imperfect knowledge threw religion aside as unsatisfactory. He thought there was a great want of systematic teaching of the evidences of religion in schools and in educational institutions. The Rev. S. Hebditch, Bishop Perry, Canon Farrar, Professor Plumptre, and Dr. Gladstone followed.

* There are two other Congregational churches in Morley. One called "Rehoboth," erected in 1764, was seized by the Earl of Dartmouth, because in 1833 the people refused to pay Church-rates; and the present church, upon another site, was opened in 1835. The third church, called "Zion," was built in 1804, but is not included in either the Congregational Union of Yorkshire or the Congregational Union of England and Wales.

The last stated that the society had already taken steps to meet the case of young persons in schools, and that they had also made satisfactory arrangements for lectures in Paris, both in French and English. He thought that, in reference to the general work, there were two gratifying features to be kept in view — one, the general inquiry for literature in which objections to Christianity were answered; the other the hopeful tone and moderate language in which apologists now carried on their work.

Correspondence.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Will you let me, as one who has for many years taken a warm interest in what concerns the welfare of University College, London, thank you for your friendly article in last week's *Nonconformist*, occasioned by the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the college? and next, will you give me leave to try to point out some practical consequences of one of the facts referred to in your article?

Not only was University College, London, the first English institution in which university teaching was made accessible to the people at large—as distinguished from the adherents of a particular ecclesiastical system—but it is admitted on all hands that the example of University College and the influence which radiated from it have had a large share during the last thirty years in banishing religious exclusiveness from the old Universities. This very result, however gratifying as in one way it cannot but be to all friends of University College, and to all adherents of its fundamental principle that the free and unfettered pursuit of knowledge is an essential condition of liberal education, has tended to deprive the college of much-needed help, which, had its principles and example found less ready acceptance, it might in all probability have received. It is certain that many wealthy Nonconformists now send their sons to Oxford or Cambridge who, under former conditions, would probably gladly have sent them to University College, London. Of this, of course, no one can complain. The points of difference between the old Universities and the London College are numerous, and, although I should be far from admitting that the Universities have the advantage on all of them, there is certainly no cause for surprise when members of a class so long shut out from the benefits of these institutions seek to avail themselves of them, now that these benefits are to so great an extent made equally accessible to all. The practical consequence, however, is that University College, London, does not now receive nearly the amount of specially Nonconformist support which, considering its origin and early history, it might reasonably have looked for. It is true that this fact has not hindered the College in the past from doing work of which it may well be proud, and it probably will not prevent it from continuing that work in the future. But every year the task becomes more difficult. It must be remembered that the work of University College, London, is to take the lead in educational progress; to go on as it is, or as it has been, would not in its case be to continue the work of the past. It is called upon by its *raison d'être* to advance, but to enable it to do so, and to take up the work that is *already* clearly in sight and waiting to be done, very considerable additional funds must be obtained, and to no class does it seem more natural that the College should look for generous help than to the English Nonconformists.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

G. CAREY FOSTER.

London, July 20, 1878.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTIONS.

No. IV.

SIR,—In this letter I purpose completing my survey of the county and borough constituencies of England. And I shall begin with the metropolis. The inhabitants of London are generally supposed to have a high opinion of their own superiority, but many of those residing in the provinces think that Londoners are not so superior as they imagine, and that they are rather superficial and fond of platform claptrap, and easily influenced by the surface currents of the moment. The last general election showed that London was taken by storm by the reactionary party. I remember a time when all the metropolitan members of Parliament were Liberals with one single exception; and then the snobs of the West-end despised the metropolitan boroughs as vulgar and democratic. In the last general election the change was so great that of the twenty-two metropolitan seats, ten were gained by the Conservatives and twelve by the Liberals. The wave of reaction that swept over the country generally partly accounts for the change, but the spirit of thorough disunion which pervaded the Liberal party was an important factor in producing the result. The City of London formerly returned three Liberals without any difficulty, but at last election it carried three Tories with large majorities, and the only Liberal returned—Mr. Goschen—owed his success to the minority clause of the last Reform Act. There was no superfluity of candidates in the City, but there was a want of cordiality and energy on the part of the Liberals. This result in the City was extraordinary. A few months before the dissolution there was a large meeting of City men to agitate for the abolition of the Income Tax on the ground of its essential unfairness. Mr. Gladstone had so managed the finances of the country that he offered in his appeal to the kingdom to abolish the Income Tax, but the very City men who had clamoured for the abolition now when offered turned against their benefactor, and returned to Parliament the party which would perpetuate the tax. After this inconsistency statesmen will be slow to offer boons to the country and especially to the City of London. The loss of such men as Baron Rothschild, however, is not great. Indeed, the rich Jews sent to Parliament by the Liberal party have been of no real service to the country, and on the Eastern Question they have been the most determined partisans of Turkey and Lord Beaconsfield. They can all be easily dispensed with to the benefit of the kingdom and the soundness of the Liberal party. Since the general election progress has been made in the City by the Liberals, but to what extent I am not sufficiently informed to state. The result of the School Board election there augurs well for the future.

The borough of Finsbury is Liberal to the core; for, in spite of too many candidates, two Liberals were returned by large majorities. Marylebone used to be regarded as one of the strongholds of Liberalism, but the last election was badly managed. The number of Liberal candidates was three, and one retired only at the last moment, and left behind an element of discord which, as usual, was disastrous in its results. One of each side was elected. It has often been proved that where there are two Liberal candidates for one seat, when one has been persuaded, perhaps reluctantly, to retire at the last moment, the supporters of the retired candidate have shown a spiteful feeling, and many of them have either abstained from voting or have gone over to the other side. It is the interest of the Liberal party to prevent, if possible, the introduction of more than the requisite number of candidates. This may be done by the Birmingham plan of representation, which is now being carried out in Marylebone. At the last election in this borough nearly half the electors did not vote at all. There is thus plenty of scope for winning the two seats at the next election.

Westminster may naturally be expected to be more Conservative than any other metropolitan borough, and at the last general election two Tories were returned by large majorities. The borough formerly had a strong Liberal element, and in the worst days sent one Liberal to the House of Commons. We may venture to hope that it will return one at least again. The new borough of Chelsea is certainly Liberal. Sir Charles Dilke was returned at the head of the poll, and another Liberal would have been chosen if a third candidate—a working man's candidate—had not gone to the poll and taken away nearly 2,000 votes, which would have secured the return of Sir H. Hoare. This notion of separate working men's members of Parliament is a mere crotchet and savours of class legislation. Working men cannot possibly bear even the legitimate expenses of an election in a large borough, and they will generally be defeated if they attempt to push their candidature, except in a few special places. What better candidates for working men can there be than John Bright and Sir Charles Dilke? If the Liberals of Chelsea be united and avoid the folly of the past, they will be able to return Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Frith without much risk at the next election. Lambeth has always been Liberal and united, and two Liberals were elected last time, but the majority was not large. There were nearly 15,000 on the register who did not vote. The case of Southwark is peculiar. It is a thorough Radical borough, and yet one of its members has for some time been a Tory, owing to disunion shown in the excess of candidates. Nearly one-half of the electors last time did not vote. If the same folly be shown again, of course the Liberal cause will be defeated. Greenwich used to be a very Liberal borough, and probably the majority of the electors are so still, but at the last election a Tory brewer was at the head of the poll, and the greatest statesman of the age, Mr. Gladstone, was elected by only a small majority over a nondescript, insignificant person. The Liberal cause is much damaged by such candidates as the second Liberal at Greenwich. The Liberal party in this borough is just now making a great fuss in trying to select two candidates, one of whom, it would seem, is to be a working man. If they pursue this course they will be defeated again. They need two first-class candidates free from any class interest. The working man generally will not support a working man, and other classes will be driven away. Candidates, to succeed, should be adapted to the population, and a working man's candidate is not adapted to Greenwich and will not be elected.

The Tower Hamlets is a Liberal borough, and yet its representation is divided. There were, last election, four Liberal candidates for two seats, and only one was elected. Such conduct was preposterous, and indicated the total disorganisation of the party. With union, two Liberals can certainly be returned triumphantly. Hackney has returned, and will again return, two Liberals, but there must be cordiality and union.

Thus five seats were lost in London by an excess of Liberal candidates. The metropolitan boroughs need great organisation for any party to succeed. The great victories gained all through London at the School Board election showed what can be done by united and cordial action. Let the Liberal party study that contest and imitate its operations, and they will certainly succeed at the next elections.

The Southern Counties, in some of which London is situated, all returned Tories at the last election—and Middlesex especially—by large majorities. The next election may show less disastrous results, but the Tory element will no doubt preponderate. The southern boroughs also went largely for the Conservatives. Maidstone returned two good Liberals, and will do so again. Gravesend went over to the Tory cause, but will hardly, I should think, re-elect the eccentric Captain Pim. Chatham elected a Tory at the general election by a large majority; but at a recent by-election it turned round, and by a considerable majority elected a Liberal. Horsham elected a Tory at the general election, and afterwards chose a Liberal. Brighton turned its back on two good Liberals, but the last School Board election showed that the Liberals are strong and united. Hastings remained faithful to the Liberal cause, and will continue to do so. Hythe was and is strongly Liberal. Dover generally goes for the party that will promise to do most for the special interests of the town. The old town of Rye, built upon a rock formerly washed by the sea, which has now retired two miles distant, returned a Tory last election by a small majority, but in all probability the next election will witness a Liberal victory. Canterbury is now represented by two Tories, and will probably do so for some time.

I turn now to the East and the North. The county of Hertford returned two Tories and one Liberal, and the borough one Tory. No change can be expected in the county, but the borough formerly was Liberal. Essex county returned six Tories by considerable majorities, and will probably remain so. The borough of Colchester also returned two Tories, though formerly the town was Liberal. The county of Cambridge returned four Tories and one Liberal, and the University town elected two Conservatives, but by very small majorities. The county will probably remain as now, but the borough, which had long been Liberal, will probably return to its old love. The two counties of Norfolk and Suffolk elected at the last general election ten Tories by considerable majorities, and there is no hope of effecting much change here, though something is possible to a united and energetic party. Norwich returned one and one, but subsequently become wholly Liberal, though a petition unseated the Liberal. It is a decidedly Liberal town, but party spirit is very strong, and corruption is commonly practised in elections. Ipswich returned two Tories at last general election, though its general character had been Liberal, and may become so again. Harwich is usually Conservative, but is open to selfish local influences. Bury St. Edmunds chose two Tories, Eye one Tory, and King's Lynn two. Thus the Eastern Counties went strongly in favour of the Tory cause

The prospect of the future election is not very certain, but possibly some of the boroughs may come back to the Liberal cause.

The North of England is decidedly Liberal, and not even the absurd cause of the "Claimant" could move the men of the North and shake their fidelity to the Liberal cause. The election recently held in Middlesbrough, in which the majority was 2 to 1 for the Liberal candidate, is an indication of the strength of the cause of true Liberalism. Durham returned four Liberals for the county and two for the borough at the last general election. Westmoreland returned two Tories for the county and a Liberal for the borough of Kendal. Cumberland sends two Liberals for the East and two Tories for the West. Northumberland sends now to Parliament three Tories and one Liberal, but the recent contest in one of the divisions shows that the Liberal element is there strong. The boroughs of the North are strongly Liberal. Middlesbrough, Darlington, Stockton-on-Tees, Newcastle, Sunderland, Hartlepool, Morpeth, Tynemouth, Cockermouth, and Carlisle all elected Liberals and nothing else; and Berwick-on Tweed was prevented doing the same by the folly previously named of having more candidates than there are seats.

I need not in this sketch cross the Border and describe the political prospects of Scotland; that has been ably done by the *Edinburgh Daily Review*, in an article recently transferred to your columns, which shows a probable Liberal gain of seven seats. The politics of Ireland is not an inviting theme, and I shall pass it over.

Cheshire, July 18, 1878. ARGUS.

MILTON MOUNT COLLEGE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Those who enter the area of controversy must not expect to escape all blows, and I should not ask for space to refer to the attack made on me by the chairman of the special committee during last Thursday's meeting but that it involves a principle of some importance to our societies. It might have been advantageous for the purpose of discrediting an opponent to call attention to *one gentleman in the room who had given* 1,200*l.* in contrast with *another who had paid two guineas to secure a vote at the meeting.* Had the chairman known what his informant the treasurer did, that I had been a subscriber to the college almost from the beginning, and ceased being so solely because I saw the management going unmistakably wrong, I scarcely think he would have drawn the invidious comparison. It was only when the spontaneous outburst of feeling on the part of the governors gave a reasonable prospect of reform that, in response to the request of Mr. Grimwade and others, I consented to qualify, guarding, by special endorsement, my right to vote against the admission of the daughters of laymen. If subscribers of small amounts (who in the case of Milton Mount College raise four-fifths of the ordinary income) are to be debarred from acting, as they believe, in the true interests of an institution, there would soon be an end of that popular basis which gives permanent strength more than the large contributions of the few.

It is much to be regretted that my friends overruled me in the desire to raise the question of the admission of laymen's daughters by a direct negative amendment on the adoption of the report. Had this been done the proxies in Mr. Grimwade's possession would have disposed of this objectionable alternative, and have lessened the prospect of its being in the future a source of irritating discussion.

Whether it may be thought desirable to issue a rejoinder to the report of the special committee, I do not know, but for myself I can say that its recommendations fully justify the agitation that has taken place, and that the paucity of its remedial suggestions, as well as the evident want of appreciation of the requirements of the crisis, form a complete vindication, if one be needed, of the protest against the constitution of that committee.

I beg to remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. F. POULTON.

Reading, July 22, 1878.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The letter of the Rev. James Davis in your last number has suggested to me that it may be useful to any of your readers who may be going to visit the Paris Exhibition, and who are interested in Mr. McAll's mission to the working classes of that city, to know that they can obtain—either here or in Paris—a "guide," which they will find very helpful, in visiting the twenty-two stations, or any of them they may select.

It contains a list of all, with exact addresses, days and hours of meetings, Sunday and other schools, and an epitome of the history of the mission, recent incidents, &c., thus giving, at a glance, much information, which hardly one person—besides Mr. McAll himself—can possibly carry in his memory, and which it would therefore be very troublesome, both to the visitor and to others, if he had to hunt up on the spot.

This guide can be obtained at Messrs. Morgan and Scott's, 12, Paternoster-buildings, or at the Depot Central, 4, Place du Théâtre Français, and at the various churches, Paris. I shall be glad to forward a copy to any who write to me as below (with initials "Q.G.C." on the envelope, as I shall soon be returning to Paris myself).

Yours truly,

R. W. ROGERS LONG.

25, Gawden-road, Clapham, S.W.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.

The following appeared in the *Times* and *Daily News* of yesterday:—

Sir,—The committee of the Peace Society will feel obliged by your inserting the accompanying documents in the *Times*. A deputation consisting of Professor Leone Levi, M. Frédéric Passy, of Paris, and myself, went to Berlin with a view to submit to the Congress the question of international arbitration. I believe that the petition herewith enclosed was laid before the Congress by Prince Bismarck. But the reason why the proposal it suggested could not be entertained may be taken to be expressed in the following extract from a courteous letter which I had the honour of receiving from the Marquis of Salisbury. Speaking of the petition, the noble lord says that it relates to a matter—"Which, unfortunately, under existing circumstances, has no bearing upon the proceedings of the Congress. It has several times been laid down by the President, and has been accepted by the representatives of the Powers, that no subjects not arising directly out of the provisions of the Treaty of San Stefano can be entertained by the Congress." The only way, therefore, in which there was any recognition of the prayer of our petition was by Article 63 of the new treaty, which declares that the Treaty of Paris, as well as the Treaty of London, "are maintained in all such of their provisions as are not abrogated or modified by the preceding stipulations," and may, therefore, be taken to reaffirm the Declaration of 1856 in favour of mediation, instead of war.

May I be permitted to express the cordial thanks of my colleagues and myself for the more than courteous reception accorded to us and our object by several of the Plenipotentiaries, especially Lord Odo Russell, Count Corti, M. de Bülow, and the Comte de St. Vallier.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

HENRY RICHARD.

Copy of Petition presented to Prince Bismarck.

"To His Highness Monseigneur Prince de Bismarck, Grand Chancellor of the Empire of Germany, President of the Congress of Berlin.

"Highness,—The undersigned delegates of the Peace Societies of Great Britain, France, and the Netherlands, together with other representatives of the principles of peace and international arbitration in different countries of Europe, have the honour of submitting to your Highness, and, through your Highness's mediation, to their Excellencies the Plenipotentiaries now assembled in Congress at Berlin, the following observations:—

"That arbitration as a means of terminating in a pacific manner the differences which unhappily arise between nations has already been put to the proof. On many occasions, even when it has been tried as a last resort, without any previous stipulation or agreement, it has been applied with the happiest results to avert from the world conflicts that seemed inevitable. How much more efficient may it be expected to prove if embodied in a general treaty, consecrated by the solemn sanction of the great States of Europe, and ratified, as it could not fail to be, by the unanimous opinion of the civilised world?

"That, at the Conference of Paris, in 1856, the first step was taken in this direction by stipulating in Article 8 of the treaty then concluded that, 'if there should arise between the Sublime Porte and one or more of the other signing Powers any misunderstanding which might endanger the maintenance of their relations, the Sublime Porte and each of such Powers, before having recourse to the use of force, shall afford the other contracting parties the opportunity of preventing such an extremity by means of their mediation.'

"That, moreover, the same Conference, by a special Protocol, expressed the 'wish that States between which any serious misunderstanding may arise should, before appealing to arms, have recourse, so far as circumstances might allow, to the good offices of a friendly Power.'

"That, in accordance with the instructions of that Conference, the Powers who were not represented at Paris, having been invited to express their opinion on this Protocol, all, with scarcely an exception, signified their concurrence in the wish which it embodied.

"That these declarations, notwithstanding the restrictions by which they were accompanied, possessed great value, because they constructed a solemn recognition of the duty henceforth imposed upon all States to have recourse as far as possible to other and better means of settling their disputes than by an appeal to the sword.

"That several of the Parliaments of Europe, on the proposition of some of those whose signatures are attached to this petition, have expressed the desire to see their respective Governments entering into negotiations with other Governments with a view to extending and regulating this happy practice." [Copies of Parliamentary resolutions are herewith submitted.]

"That the question has thus taken its place officially among the common pre-occupations of Europe, and is urgently commended to the constant attention of diplomacy.

"That, moreover, the Treaty of Paris and the Protocol referred to are, it is understood, at this moment under the consideration of the Congress.

"That the representatives of the Great Powers, being now assembled in Congress to regulate afresh with a view to securing a durable peace the reciprocal relations of the different nations, a rare opportunity is afforded to lay the foundation for a general system of arbitration which could not fail to bring upon them the blessings of the whole world.

"The undersigned venture respectfully to pray the Plenipotentiaries to reaffirm in terms more express and more formal the great principle proclaimed in 1856, and to introduce into the treaty or treaties about to be concluded some clause to the following effect;—

"In case of any serious misunderstanding arising as to the interpretation or execution of the present treaties, as well as on other points that might endanger their friendly relations, the signatory Powers engage themselves, after exhausting all means of amicable negotiation, to submit the matter to arbitration. An equal number of arbitrators to be chosen on either side by the Powers concerned, while the arbitrators so chosen will have the right to appoint a third arbitrator or umpire.

"The undersigned have the honour to be, your Highness, your most humble and obedient servants,

"HENRY PEASE, formerly Member of Parliament, President of the London Peace Society.

"HENRY RICHARD, Member of Parliament, Secretary of the London Peace Society, author of the motion in favour of arbitration adopted by the House of Commons.

"LEONE LEVI, Barrister-at-Law, Professor of Commercial and International Law at King's College, London, Vice-President of the London Peace Society.

"FREDERIC PASSY, Member of the Institute of France.

"AD. FRANCK, Member of the Institute of France, Professor of National Law at the College of France, President of the French Society of the Friends of Peace.

"HENRY BELLAIRE, Secretary of the Society of the Friends of Peace in France.

"JOSEPH GARNIER, Senator, Member of the Institute of France, Vice-President of the French Society of the Friends of Peace.

"CH. MAZEAU, Senator, Vice-President of the French Society of the Friends of Peace.

"P. S. MANCINI, late Minister of Justice and Worship of the Kingdom of Italy, author of the motion adopted by the Italian Parliament.

"AUG. COUVREUR, Member of the Chamber of Representatives of Belgium, author of the motion adopted by the Belgian Parliament.

"D. VAN ECK, Member of the States General of the Netherlands, President of the League of Peace of the Netherlands, author of the motion adopted by the Parliament of the Netherlands.

"G. BELINFANTE, barrister, Secretary of the League of Peace of the Netherlands."

A paper accompanying this petition contained resolutions passed on the subject of international arbitration by legislative bodies in Great Britain, Italy, the United States, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, and France.

It is rumoured, says the *Athenæum*, that a new volume of lyrical poems by Mr. Tennyson may be expected shortly to make its appearance.

Mr. Arthur Arnold is preparing for publication in the autumn, by Messrs. C. Kegan Paul and Co., a volume of papers to be entitled "Practical Politics."

The French Academy is about to send Professor Bell the gold medal of honour for the invention of the telephone.

The African International Association has received the following despatch, dated Aden, the 16th inst.:—"M. Wautier left with a caravan on the 27th of June; Messrs. Dutrieux and Cambier set out on the 2nd of July. The travellers and their escorts are in good health."

A biography of the late Mr. Brownlow North is ready for the press. It has been prepared by the Rev. R. K. Moody-Stuart, M.A., of Moffat, a son of the well-known Free Church divine, Dr. Moody-Stuart, of Edinburgh.

The University of Dublin has conferred the honorary degree of LL.D. on Mr. Lecky, for his eminence as an historian, and upon Prof. Cliffe Leslie, for his distinction as a writer on political economy.

MILL HILL SCHOOL.—At the Matriculation Examination of the London University, held this June, the results of which have just been published, six Mill Hill candidates were successful. Four of them were placed in the Honours Division. S. H. Seville (tenth) and H. Harley (eleventh) obtained the number of marks qualifying for a prize. O. Seaman was twenty-first, and H. Temperley thirty-sixth. W. H. Andrew passed in the First Division, and J. H. Ball in the Second. The total number of candidates was 786, of whom 70 passed in Honours, 303 in the First Division, and 38 in the Second. The Bousfield Scholarship at Mill Hill School (50*l.* for three years), tenable at University College, London, or New College, London, has been awarded to Harold Harley. The examination, which embraces a somewhat wider range than the matriculation, was held last month, the examiners being Dr. Greenwood (principal of Owens College, Manchester) and Dr. Newth (principal of Regent's Park College, London). Owen Seaman was second, and, in consideration of the merits of his papers in Classics, History, and Scripture, he was awarded an extra prize of 25*l.*

SHOREDITCH TABERNACLE.

ON or about OCTOBER 1st the MEMORIAL STONES of the above Place of Worship will be LAID.

The Committee are very thankful to the Christian public for their generous help to the present, and beg to make one more Appeal. The need of a large place is very urgent; for, while we have a Church of 900 Members and a Congregation of 2000 now worshipping in the Shoreditch Town Hall of an evening, our present Chapel seats only 600.

The New Tabernacle is to seat 2000, and will cost about £8000, towards which we have £4000 promised. The Committee are anxious to open the new building free of debt.

CONTRIBUTIONS will be thankfully received and acknowledged by the Pastor, Rev. W. CUFF, 5, Palestine Place, Cambridge Heath, E.; by the Treasurer, Mr. J. Harverson, 10, Well Street, Hackney, E.; by the financial Secretary, Mr. Geo. Boggis, 14 and 15, St Swithin's Lane, Cannon Street, E.C.; or may be paid to the account of the "Shoreditch Tabernacle Fund," at the London and County Bank (Shoreditch Branch) London, E.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.

The ANNUAL PRIZE DAY of the above School will take place on THURSDAY, the 25th inst., when the examiner's report will be read, the prizes distributed, and an address to the boys delivered by Rev. T. VERRALL, B.A. JOHN GLOVER, Esq., of Highgate, will preside.

Tea at 5 p.m. S. FISHER, Sec.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—SATURDAY, JULY 27. —FESTIVAL in AID of the BUILDING FUND of the TONIC SOLFA COLLEGE.—United Concert by 3 000 Certificated Singers, followed by Performances by the Choral Associations of Mr. J. Proudman. Mr. W. G. McNaught, and Mr. L. C. Venables; Mr. Tipper's Royal Criterion Campanologists, and Organ Performances by Mr. W. C Harris and Mr. Alfred Rhodes. One special object of the College is to train Teachers of Music for the People. The public Elementary Schools, the Bands of Hope, the Ragged School Unions, the Psalmody Associations, and the public musical examinations throughout the kingdom bear testimony to the usefulness of our movement.

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The FOUNDATION STONE of the Hall and School-rooms will be LAID on SATURDAY, 27th July, at 4 p.m., by J. KEMP WELCH, Esq., J.P.

An Address will be delivered by the Rev. J. GUINNESS ROGERS, B.A.

The Revs. A. Hannay, A. Mearns, and others will take part in the proceedings.

The supporters of the London Congregational Union are earnestly invited to attend.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1878.

THE WEEK.

Upon the full statement relative to the Treaty of Berlin made by Lord Beaconsfield on Thursday night, before one of the most brilliant audiences that has ever been gathered together in the House of Lords, we have commented elsewhere. His lordship has been received with at least as much distinction by his Sovereign as by his brother Peers, and on Monday last the vacant Garter—the highest honour Queen Victoria could confer—was in due form bestowed upon the Prime Minister. This Court incident indicates that Lord Beaconsfield has reached the zenith of his fame, which, indeed, must have begun to tarnish after the destructive criticism of his late colleague on Thursday last. Passing over the memorable episode in which Lord Derby declared that he had left the Cabinet because it was thought necessary "to seize and occupy the island of Cyprus, together with a point upon the Syrian coast," "with or without the consent of the Sultan"—the truth of which Lord Salisbury angrily denied, comparing his lordship to Titus Oates—we come to the ex-Foreign Minister's examination of the Anglo-Turkish Convention, by which the integrity of the Asiatic dominions of the Sultan is guaranteed. As to its probable, almost certain effect, Lord Derby thus spoke:—

> I do not believe that, having this guarantee, the Turkish Government will take the least trouble to govern well in Asia; they will go on in the old plan of neglecting everything; it will be simply a government of oppression, and the population being half starved we shall be called upon to make good their default. Disaffections and insurrection will follow, all of which will affect the guarantee, and either a demand will be made for the assistance of English troops, or that the Turkish troops shall be officered by British officers. Any disturbances that arise will have to be put down probably by Turkish Pashas, and we shall be committed to every kind of interference. The end of it must be that it will be virtual annexation, an annexation not founded upon any treaty, and not recognised by any foreign Powers. (Hear, hear.) Of course, the Sultan will not submit so long as he can help himself; but he must accept our protection; but, at the same time there will be an undercurrent of dissatisfaction and the inevitable jealousy of other courts. Nobody knows better than my noble friend at the head of the Foreign Office that our relations with the native Indian princes have not always been of the most pleasant character; but there is a very material difference between our relations with Indian princes and with Turkey. Indian princes had no foreign consuls or ambassadors at their courts, and very probably if they sent them they would very soon be told to go; but at Constantinople every foreign Power will have an ambassador or representative of some sort, and they will interfere, as they have done for the last twenty years; and if we should interfere, as we must do, in the details of the local administration, we shall rouse all sorts of susceptible jealousies; and it will be in the mouths of everyone—or, at all events, there will be a general expectation that sooner or later we shall take possession of the country. I see no escape from that conclusion. If you are going to protect Turkey externally, you can only do it by interfering with its internal administration; and if so, you pledge yourselves to the maintenance of a Government which will become irretrievably bad: but if, on the other hand, you undertake to reform it you will find that you cannot do it effectually except by actually taking possession, so that you really are on an inclined plane sliding down to virtual annexation. For the first time we have a virtual frontier open to invasion, and the enormous numerical superiority of Russia in military strength will become available against us. Not being able to send an ironclad into the Black Sea—and, if we were able, there being no good port to send it to now that Batoum is Russian, we are thrown entirely on our land resources for the defence of Asia Minor, and it would seem that in going half-way to meet Russia we do the utmost we can to increase her advantages and decrease our own.

To these and other weighty arguments Lord Salisbury could only reply that these obligations were not half so alarming as those under which we already lie to defend all the territories of the Queen, and that if responsibility was to be shirked, it would be better to renounce Empire altogether. His lordship might have added—as may be inferred from Lord Beaconsfield's speech—that, while the obligation to defend Asiatic Turkey will be a reality, the right of intervention to secure good government is a delusive sham.

The flimsy character of the Prime Minister's speech on Thursday has emboldened the Liberal leaders to make a decided stand. The Chancellor of the Exchequer having, on the part of the Government, declined to challenge the opinion of Parliament on their recent foreign policy, the Marquis of Hartington has given notice of the following resolution:—

> That while this House has learnt with satisfaction that the troubles which have arisen in the East of Europe have been terminated by the Treaty of Berlin without a further recourse to arms, and rejoices in the extension of liberty and self-government to some of the populations of European Turkey, this House regrets—That it has not been found practicable to deal in a more satisfactory manner with the claims of the Kingdom of Greece and of the Greek subjects of the Porte:—
>
> That by the assumption of the sole guarantee of the integrity of the remaining territories of Turkey in Asia the military liabilities of this country have been unnecessarily extended:
>
> That the undefined engagements entered into by Her Majesty's Government in respect of the better administration of these properties have imposed heavy responsibilities upon the State, while no sufficient means have been indicated for securing their fulfilment:
>
> And that such engagements have been entered into and responsibilities incurred without the previous knowledge of Parliament.

Though the above resolution is couched in moderate terms, it amounts to a vote of censure on the Government, and it is understood that all sections of the Opposition endorse its allegations. It was to have been moved to-morrow, but the protest of the Home Rulers against any delay in the Irish Intermediate Education Bill has obliged the postponement of the debate to Monday next. There can be no doubt that a discussion in the spirit of the speeches delivered on Saturday by Mr. Gladstone in Southwark, and by Mr. Forster at the annual dinner of the Cobden Club, will go far to open the eyes of the public relative to the real scope of the Convention of Constantinople, and we are glad to be able to infer from the remarks of the right hon. member for Bradford that the motion will be pressed to a division. It will be met by an amendment from Mr. Plunket, a non-official Conservative, which declares "that this House has learned with deep satisfaction the termination, by the conclusion of a treaty between the Great Powers of Europe, of the war which has unhappily prevailed in the East," and expresses a "confident hope that the arrangements now made and sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government will lead to the preservation of peace, the amelioration of the condition of the large populations of the East, and the maintenance of the interests of this Empire." This amendment will, no doubt, be supported by the mass of Conservative members, and probably also by most of the Irish Liberals, who are just now on good terms with the Government, and care little about the drift of their foreign policy.

The Berlin Protocols have now been issued as a Parliamentary paper, and will be carefully analysed during the interval between the present time and Monday next. These documents show that the reports of the proceedings of the Congress which appeared in our daily papers were, in the main, correct. The avowed object of the British Plenipotentiaries was, as explained in a despatch to Lord Odo Russell, to restore the Balkans to Turkey, to leave Eastern Roumelia virtually in the hands of the Sultan, and to maintain the *status quo* in respect to the Dardanelles—objects which were already provided for in the Agreement with Russia which the *Globe* prematurely divulged. No doubt these Protocols, whatever their import, will be readily accepted in the House of Commons next week by the Ministerial majority, whose chief anxiety is to vote straight; but less subservient supporters of the Government decline to be comforted. After Lord Salisbury's Circular in vindication of the policy of the Government, Lord Beaconsfield's statement in the House of Lords, and an examination of the Protocols of the Congress, the *Pall Mall Gazette* can only draw the conclusion that the Treaty of Berlin "unsettles everything and settles nothing," and that "it is the record of an obvious, conscious, and admitted failure to settle the simplest of questions with which the Plenipotentiaries had to deal."

One of the first fruits of Berlin compromises has been a virulent agitation throughout the Italian kingdom. Signor Corti and his colleagues accepted reluctantly, but without protest, the decisions of the Congress. But a large section of those whom they represented are not satisfied with their conduct. The popular discontent broke out on the news that the British representatives had bargained to annex Cyprus as an equivalent for their engagement to defend Asiatic Turkey, and it has been intensified by the permission given to Austria to occupy Bosnia and Herzegovina. The feverish cry for "Unredeemed Italy" means that the Trentine and the Italian Tyrol ought to be annexed to the dominions of King Humbert. The Government at Rome are frightened at this ill-advised and selfish movement—which is said to be greatly encouraged, for obvious reasons, by the priests—and have assured the Vienna Cabinet that they utterly repudiate it. It will probably die away before any mischief arises. It is a pity that the Italians are once again, in their clamour for more territory, missing their most obvious duty of consolidating what they have, putting their finances in order, and carrying out urgent domestic reforms.

The revelations of the Protocols will be a sore discouragement to the many holders of Turkish bonds in this country who have been zealously supporting Lord Beaconsfield's Cabinet, in the belief that it was standing up for the integrity of the Ottoman Empire. Lord Salisbury's strong condemnation of the proposed war indemnity in his famous Circular seems to have had little result. It appears from the Protocols that the Russian indemnity of forty millions sterling, though not an absolute first charge upon the revenues of Turkey, ranks next after guaranteed loans and special hypothecations. Other debts—and they are considerable—will take their chance *after* Russia is satisfied; and probably their turn will never come. Nor is it easy to understand how the holders of the guaranteed bonds will recover what is due to them. As the *Spectator* points out, our diplomatists "have supplied the Porte gratuitously with a high patriotic argument for total repudiation. Pay their debts, indeed! How can you ask it? Why, if they paid their debts, they would have to pay the monstrous ransom exacted from them by the invading Power. Englishmen cannot be so lost in selfishness as to desire to be paid, when payment is to Russian advantage. If the Pashas, with their Greek and Armenian secretaries, are not astute enough to use that argument, and keep all tributes, assignments, and revenues for themselves, they have indeed lost their cunning."

In a letter to the daily papers, which we have copied elsewhere, Mr. Richard, M.P., describes the result of the visit of himself and other prominent advocates of peace to Berlin with a view to submit to the Congress the question of international arbitration. It was hardly to be expected, and we dare say the deputation had no hope, that these august believers in the supreme virtue of "blood and iron," as developed in gigantic armaments, including Lord Beaconsfield, would give them much encouragement; and the Plenipotentiaries had a valid excuse for ignoring the question by their preliminary resolution to entertain nothing outside the provisions of the Treaty of San Stefano. Still, the petition of the delegates of the Peace Societies of Great Britain, France, and the Netherlands was laid before the Congress, though no action was taken upon it. The weighty views set forth in that document in favour of arbitration as a means of terminating international disputes have been once more placed before the statesmen of Europe and the world at large. In due time, we doubt not, they will bear substantial fruit. The progress that has been made in the recognition of this rational principle is, indeed, illustrated in the petition presented to the Congress. Not only can the advocates of peace point to its endorsement from time to time by several of the Parliaments of Europe, including our own, but the Treaty of Berlin indirectly reaffirms the Declaration of Paris, which, it will be remembered, expressed the "wish that States between which any serious misunderstanding may arise should, before appealing to arms, have recourse, so far as circumstances might allow, to the

good offices of a friendly Power." The peace delegates to Berlin, it appears, met with a very cordial reception from several of the Plenipotentiaries, and their prayer, though not granted by the Congress, will be echoed and re-echoed till it is realised in the international relations of the several communities of Europe.

Both Houses of Parliament yesterday received a Royal Message, inviting them to make some provision for the Duke of Connaught on his approaching marriage with the Princess Louise Margaret of Prussia, which message is to be taken into consideration to-morrow. The invitation is not very opportune at a time when the Prime Minister is permitted, in the Queen's name, to stretch to the very utmost the prerogatives of the Crown, and to contemn the rights of Parliament. The latent dissatisfaction on the subject is reflected in Sir Charles Dilke's threatened motion for the production of papers tending to show that up to the present reign there was no constitutional precedent for such an application as is now made in the interest of Her Majesty's third son.

The long continuance of the present brilliant summer weather tells greatly in favour of the harvest. There is this year the expectation that a good hay crop and a good wheat crop—which rarely go together—will be realised. The former, already secured, is unprecedented in bulk. According to Mr. T. C. Scott, a well-known authority on agricultural matters, the wheat crop in most of the good wheat-growing counties is likely to be above an average, and in less favoured counties it will nearly, if not quite, reach an average. Barley will not realise a full crop, oats will be under the average, and green crops are not likely to come near the average. In some districts of Essex, and of the southern counties, the great and long-continued heat has so ripened the crops that reaping has already begun. Mr. Scott especially rejoices in the favourable weather as giving fresh hope to the farmers, who have been suffering from dear labour, deficient crops, and low prices, and find a difficulty in making a living out of husbandry. "Land," says Mr. Scott, "has lately come, and continues to come, into the owners' hands, especially in corn counties, in many cases from the inability of the tenants to continue their occupations, and in others from capitalists electing to retire on the residue of their means." We hope a better time is at hand both for agriculturists and for industry generally. There are some signs that the protracted depression of the last five years is being mitigated. How far it may be arrested by our new foreign policy—that is, by the costly Imperialist system which Lord Beaconsfield has inaugurated without consulting the nation—we cannot say. Business may or may not revive, but greatly increased taxation is a certainty.

SKETCHES FROM THE GALLERY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Tuesday Night.

Lord Beaconsfield has returned, and the House of Lords is itself again. Whatever other acknowledgment the British peerage is inclined to make to Mr. Disraeli, it cannot omit the statement of its indebtedness for the success with which he has rescued the House of Lords from the reproach of obscurity. Five years ago the House of Lords was a place to which occasional reference was made in the newspaper reports of Parliamentary proceedings. But what it said did not matter at all, and what it did only acquired consequence when it plucked up its courage to the pitch necessary for dissenting from some of the Commons' legislation. But Lord Beaconsfield has changed all that. Since he went to the Upper House, more particularly since foreign affairs have obtained prominence, the centre of interest has frequently been removed to the House of Lords, and it has been the House of Commons that has had to complain of desertion. Thus it was in a special degree on Thursday, when the Prime Minister made his first public appearance after his return from the Congress. The House was crowded in every part, except the Throne; and, though the Queen was not present, as many believed was the case, one of her sons, two of her daughters, and her eldest son's daughter had assembled to do honour to her favourite Minister. Perhaps the scene in the House of Lords was more brilliant when the Queen opened Parliament, and all the benches were given up to ladies who bared their necks to the light of day, and flashed their diamonds in the noontide sun. But the beauty of the scene on that occasion was somewhat marred by the appearance of peers, young and old, decked out in rusty-looking red gowns slashed with ermine, attired in which they were huddled together on closely set benches below the table. There were no red gowns on Thursday, and though the ladies had foregone the splendour of evening dress, they perhaps looked prettier in their morning costume of many colours. Apart from spectacular effect there was no comparison between the assemblages on the two occasions. On Thursday there was not only a full muster of peers, but practically the House of Commons had adjourned to the Upper Chamber, and Lord Beaconsfield shared the privilege of the Queen, who is able, when she pleases, to address both Houses of Parliament under the same roof.

What Lord Beaconsfield said is already a matter of history; but it may be recorded that the impression gained when hearing it, increases upon reflection, and there is a general opinion that this, though perhaps the most memorable, cannot be regarded as the most successful of Lord Beaconsfield's Parliamentary orations. The task, as a whole, was out of his peculiar line. He is not good at long speeches, having made his fame and his position rather by the use of the rapier than of the broadsword. His lordship becomes heavy and grows dull when weighted with the necessity of delivering a long and serious speech. After speaking for an hour amid the gathering dolour of the illustrious assembly he found his position becoming unsupportable, and ventured upon a joke at the expense of the Russian accession in Asia. But it was not a happy effort. Its good-natured design was to cheer his own supporters under the Russian triumph by belittling Batoum. But though the House laughed at the moment, its laughter was not prolonged, and Lord Beaconsfield's attempt chiefly resulted in indicating his own uncomfortableness in view of the Russian success.

The turn of the House of Commons has yet to come. It will begin next Monday, and there is the pleasant prospect of a whole week spent in the delivery of carefully-prepared essays on the Eastern Question, with special reference to the Treaty of Berlin. This is the last great debate of the session. It will close a historic episode, and is likely to be exceedingly wearisome. It has not even the charm of uncertainty about it. Everybody knows exactly what will be the issue of the debate as far as the division lobbies are concerned. The only disturbing influence upon the majority is likely to be the holiday absence of a score or two of members. Pending the opening of this debate, the House of Commons has been engaged steadily upon the practical work of legislation. It has given up to the Contagious Diseases Act what was meant for mankind, and the result has not been on the whole agreeable to the Government. In truth, Sir Stafford Northcote may regard with satisfaction the absorption of public interest in the Eastern Question, which prevents an otherwise inconvenient scrutiny of the position of the Government with respect to this Cattle Plague Bill. No one exactly knows how the measure stands; but there is, no doubt, very little of the original bill left. When Mr. Disraeli came into office in 1874 he took an early opportunity of expounding to the House of Commons the principle upon which he proposed to legislate. The best way of getting a good deal, he then said, is for Ministers to bring in a model, place it upon the floor of the House, and then let practical men on both sides set to work to improve it. This is an admirable notion in theory, though it does not accord with the generally accepted view of the duties of Government. It is, however, what has been done in the case of the Cattle Plague Bill. The bill originally brought in was framed on the model of the aspirations of the English farmer. It meant to give him protection at the expense of the consumer, and this was to be done by the simple expedient of preventing the import of cattle from the accustomed fields of supply.

Fortunately, the consumer is adequately and efficiently represented in the House of Commons. The borough members took counsel together, and arrived at the decision to prevent the accomplishment of the Ministerial design. I communicated to you at the time the fact of this arrangement, but those who took part in it could scarcely anticipate the completeness of the triumph that awaited them. The Opposition thus formed was composed of precisely the elements likely to insure success. Men like Sir Chas. Dilke, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. Mundella, and half-a-dozen other members of large boroughs, know what they mean, and generally succeed in getting what they require. They did not make any fuss about what they were going to do. They did not enter on the contest with drums beating and colours flying. They did not even avail themselves of the opportunities of obstruction which lay to their hands. They would not have shrunk from using these had it been necessary; but they were content to try at the outset the influence of reason and argument, backed up, as they were in this case, by the moral support of millions of the electors. The experiment has entirely succeeded. The Government have given way almost on every point on which they have been pressed by the borough representatives, and, standing between the two fires of their open enemies and their party friends, the Ministry have had a bad time of it. The measure, as it stands just now, has brought matters with respect to the import of cattle very much to the pass in which they stood before the bill was drafted. After it has become law the foreign cattle trade will practically be carried on precisely as it is now. In addition to their having failed in their endeavour to do something for the former, the Ministry have covered themselves with opprobrium, have made enemies on their own side, and have presented the undesirable spectacle of indecision and almost pitiable pliability. Under these circumstances, a little excitement about foreign politics is a matter to be fostered, and the end of the Session an epoch greatly to be desired.

Colleges and Schools.

MILTON MOUNT COLLEGE.

The adjourned meeting of the governors and subscribers to this college was held in the Board Room of the Memorial Hall on Thursday last, Mr. J. Kemp-Welch being again voted to the chair, and the proceedings opened with prayer.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not anticipate the same warmth of feeling which was manifested at the former meeting. Every explanation that was desirable would be afforded, and he called upon Mr. G. F. White to read the report of the special committee, of which the following is an abstract:—

The special committee appointed on the 20th ulto—viz., Messrs. Scrutton, Grimwade, Dr. Raleigh, and Professor Harley, gentlemen to whom were added in pursuance of the power then given to those gentlemen, Mr. A. Allott, of Sheffield; Mr. Crosfield, junr., of Liverpool; Mr. W. H. Conyers, of Leeds; Mr. F. Wells, of Chelmsford; and Mr. G. F. White, of London met on the 3rd inst. at the college, and again on the 10th and 15th inst. at the Memorial Hall, to consider the terms of Dr. Kennedy's resolution, carried at the late meeting of the governors, viz.—1st. Whether any reduction could be made in the teaching staff or its expenses without impeaching the education imparted in the college. 2ndly. Whether any reduction could be made in the domestic expenditure; and, 3rdly. To report on the best means of securing an increased income. Instead of eleven gentlemen as contemplated by Dr. Kennedy's resolution, the services of only nine gentlemen had been secured, of whom Mr. G. F. White had been elected chairman. The executive committee consisted of fifteen gentlemen, who held eleven meetings each year, the lady principal being always present, but not voting. This lady submitted a budget on the 1st January each year, which, when approved by the Executive Committee, formed the basis of expenditure. The tradesmen's accounts were checked by the lady principal, and tabulated by the treasurer, who sent a copy of the digest of them to the members of the executive committee. The lady principal received from the treasurer 30*l.* to 50*l.* a month for weekly wages, &c., treated as petty cash until adjusted in the monthly classification. It had not been the custom to contract for the provisions, but a strict watch had been kept on the price and quality of all articles supplied, the tradesmen having been originally selected by a Provision Committee, who had discharged their duties satisfactorily. The result of the housekeeping was that 150 girls were fed for 7*s.* per week each, but, taking into account all the rest of the inmates (177 in all) the actual cost was 5*s.* 10*d.* per head per week. The committee found that the diet was good, and sufficient in quantity and quality, neither more nor better than requisite for proper sustenance. The whole of the internal arrangements were admirably clean and in perfect order, although on a scale which rendered a considerable expenditure on service inevitable. The garden and grounds were so laid out as to impose a minimum amount of labour on the gardener, and give him time for other duties. The building was in good repair, and the wear and tear of fittings and furniture not greater than might have been expected during the five years the school had existed. The service of the house was performed by a housekeeper, twelve women servants, and two men. No menial work was done by the pupils, but each attended to her own room, and the sitting-rooms were kept tidy by the pupils. Each elder girl had special duties allotted to her in connection with a younger one. Instruction was given in plain needlework, and the elder pupils could learn dressmaking, and many of them cut out and made out their own dresses.

With reference to the educational department, the number of pupils was 150. Twenty would leave at Christmas, and 120 were waiting admission. Candidates were entered on the books at the age of nine years,

but few entered until they were twelve. As but little education was gained in the interval of waiting, it was for consideration whether entries to the school after the age of thirteen should not be restricted, and a higher test imposed on children entering at twelve instead of ten years of age. All the pupils left at seventeen, but those who were destined for teachers and governesses could pass two extra years in the Gravesend High School. In the latter there were now six girls who had studied at Milton Mount, and it was with the full approbation of the managers that the lady principal paid short occasional visits to the High School. The number of resident teachers, including the lady principal, was eleven, but, excluding music, the staff of ladies engaged in the instruction of 150 pupils might be taken to be nine, giving an average of eighteen or twenty girls to each class. The resident teachers' salaries amounted to 575*l.*, besides whom non-resident professors for the higher branches were engaged at an expenditure of 627*l.*, and the lady principal's salary was 200*l.* The whole expense of the teaching staff was, therefore, 1,400*l.*, amounting (exclusive of books, &c.) to 9*l.* 6s. 8d. per pupil. The school year instead of two was now divided into three terms. The third term necessarily involved an extra journey home for the pupils, and a corresponding expense to the college for railway fares in excess of 100 miles; but the advantages were in favour of the division of the year into three terms. The lady principal considered that the first outlay of 10*l.* for outfit ought to be sufficient, with a subsequent 10*l.* annually for every after requirement. As the result of their inquiries the committee found: That the cost of maintaining and educating the present number of pupils for the last year amounted to 5,855*l.*, showing a cost per head as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Board and maintenance	14	0	0
Education, including books and maintenance	10	15	0
General expenses	10	10	0
Office expenses and mortgage interest . .	3	15	0
Making the total cost per head	39	0	0

This cost, however, involved a yearly loss to the college of 2,000*l.*

The committee, therefore, submitted recommendations under the following heads:—

(*a*) EDUCATION.—The committee do not find that the original estimate of 25*l.* per head (15*l.* for provisions and 10*l.* for teaching) had been exceeded, and, considering that a first-class education to ministers' daughters was the *raison d'etre* of the college, the cost of such education constituting only one-fourth of the whole expenditure, and the salaries paid to professors and teachers no more than now sufficient to secure the services of properly qualified instructors, do not recommend any alteration as regards the resident teachers. But modifications might be made in the professional staff for music, mathematics, and Latin, and examinations of essays undertaken by ministers, whereby an economy of 200*l.* per annum or more might be effected.

(*b*) BOARD AND MAINTENANCE.—The committee do not recommend any reduction either in quality or quantity, feeling assured that the dietary was of the simplest and cheapest kind compatible with the health of growing children. Some of the committee think the contract system for provisions would be advantageous, and it will be well for the managers to consider the subject.

(*c.*) GENERAL EXPENDITURE AND OFFICE EXPENSES.—The committee, after carefully scrutinising the items of expenditure, could not indicate any important savings if the college were to be maintained in its original condition. They suggest, however, that the finance committee should meet the treasurer more frequently than they had done, and a full and thorough audit by a professional accountant or a gentleman willing to aid the treasurer. They also suggested that the railway fares might be shared between the institution and the parents. These minor economies, however, would not meet the present difficulties. The fault, if any, was that Milton Mount College (not intended to be self-sustaining) had been erected on so large a scale without sufficient provision in advance, and the building having been at once filled with pupils. The annual cost being 6,000*l.* and the income only 4,000*l.*, and the income from the first being insufficient, the institution was now piling up a debt which would end in its ruin if a remedy were not promptly applied. Four courses were suggested to meet the present emergency:—1. General reduction of expenditure; 2. Increase of minimum fee paid by ministers; 3. Reduction of pupils to one-half or two-thirds; 4. The admission of laymen's daughters on payment of much higher fees. To these the committee added a 5th—The demand for more liberal support from the churches.

As to these five heads, the committee considered—1st. That the suggested reduction of expenditure would not restore the equilibrium between outgoings and income. 2ndly. That the minimum fee payable by ministers was too low. Out of 150, 124 paid only 15*l.* per annum. This institution was not specifically established for the poorest ministers, but others in relatively better circumstances needed corresponding help for the education of their daughters. The committee considered the minimum fee should be raised from 15*l.* to 20*l.*, unless the managers fixed it at 18*l.*, with 1*l.* 10s. additional for music, and the pupils might be required to pay cost price for their books. The committee recommended that the increase should not apply to the present pupils. The increased payment for new pupils would not be realised in less than three or four years. 3rdly. The reduction of the number of pupils would be a retrograde policy, and the diminution to one-half or two-thirds would effect only a small relative saving. 4thly. As to the admission of laymen's daughters at higher fees, there was power to do so by the trust deed. The experiment might be made by taking a certain number of such pupils, and the comfort and other advantages of Milton Mount College warranted a charge much larger than the present. The admission of twenty-five daughters of laymen might be estimated to add 1,000*l.* a-year to the net income of the college, but the committee would not recommend this course until a further appeal for help had been made. 5thly. Upon larger and more liberal help from Christian churches the future existence of the college depended, as neither raising the fees nor the admission of lay pupils would enable the managers to meet their liabilities. The churches encouraged the establishment of the college, and were bound to stand by it, although their help had latterly been wanting. The report of the committee then deprecated the disagreements among the supporters of the college, and especially the conduct of those who expressed discontent with the management, placed the affairs of the college in an unfavourable light before the public, and represented the necessary expenditure as extravagant. With different feelings, and a disposition to look indulgently on the possible shortcomings of those who had but a single aim in the management of the institution, the whole aspect would be speedily changed. The churches would then help the managers, the equilibrium between expenditure and income would be restored by help from without and self-help from within, and the college be placed in a more satisfactory condition than it had ever been. The committee in closing their report expressed their satisfaction with the eminent qualifications of the lady principal for her duties, as also with the valuable services of the treasurer and executive committee.

Dr. RALEIGH also read a letter from Mr. W. H. Conyers, of Leeds, giving his views as to the manner in which the treasurer had treated the matter.

Mr. HENRY WRIGHT, having been called upon by the chairman to move the first resolution, said he had taken a prominent part at the last meeting in moving the adoption of the report then presented, and he was therefore unwilling to move the adoption of the report of the committee, although he entirely agreed with it, lest he should be considered as being unduly prominent, and he was also unwilling to make any remarks upon the report. He proposed that the report presented by Mr. White be received for consideration. Then, after the discussion upon it, he was prepared to move its adoption.

Mr. MILLS, reserving any remarks he wished to make till a later period, formally seconded Mr. Wright's motion, which was then carried.

Mr. GRIMWADE said he felt the extremly difficult position he was in. Having been selected with eight other gentlemen of equal, if not superior, ability and intelligence to himself, still he was compelled to stand alone from them because he could not accept as a whole the report presented by the committee. After the corpus of the report had been read at their second meeting, he had said that the whole report bore upon it the impress of coming from the hands of a special councillor, who had been retained on behalf of those friends who wished to have things remain as they are. He then commented upon various parts of the report, and said that the treasurer deserved all praise for what he had done. As to the purchase of provisions, he had always complained that there was not a house committee, and it was a matter of regret that the purchase of everything should be left entirely in the hands of the lady principal. He had not a word to say against either the quantity or the quality of the food, although the three course system necessarily involved some increased cost. He had examined four months' invoices, and his fear was more than confirmed that the prices paid were greatly in excess of what need be paid. He considered that provisions for the college, as was the case with similar establishments, should be purchased by contract, and he believed a reduction in the expenditure to the extent of 2,000*l.* a year might be made if greater care was taken to see that only proper prices were charged. With reference to the visits of the lady principal to the High School at Gravesend for the purpose of examining classes there, having regard to the various duties devolving upon her at Milton Mount, her hands were exceedingly full, and he could not understand why her attention should to any extent be withdrawn from their own college to the High School. Mr. Grimwade then referred to the question of "outfit" for the pupils, for which 10*l.* was put down and 10*l.* for replacement of it, which he did not agree with. He also objected to the clause in the report beginning, "The committee do not find that the institution was established for the very poorest of the ministerial body"; but he had a paper signed by Mr. Scrutton, Mr. Harr son, and the hon. secretary, which did not agree with that, and he (Mr. Grimwade) submitted that the college was certainly not intended for the daughters of rich ministers or wealthy laymen. For the reasons he had given, and many others, he could not sign the report of the committee, much as he agreed with a very great deal of it. (Hear, hear.) No one would regret more than himself that the college should come to any harm. If he had used hard words he did not mean them to hurt the feelings of any one—(laughter)—but he had his own convictions, and could not therefore sign the report. In conclusion he would say, without wishing to use harsh language, that the committee had not given that attention to important matters, especially in reference to the purchasing department, which they ought, and had left too much to the lady principal. He was ready to make any sacrifice personally for the efficient maintenance of the college, and such steps ought to be taken as would put an end to the objections which had been raised. He could occupy an hour in reading letters from first-rate men showing that they were not satisfied with the way in which the college had been conducted. The charge against the committee was that some were wire-pullers and some were fools. (Hear, hear.) That was the charge. Happily he was one of the fools, and not a wire-puller. He accepted the definition; but they were not so foolish as some gentlemen might assume. At any rate, they had a desire to be honest. Every word he had used in the letter he had written to the governors and subscribers was justified by what he saw. On his attention being called to an objectionable expression in it he said he would withdraw that. Nothing would he take from the arrangements of the college if the parents of the children could afford to pay for them; but the whole style, cost, and expense of the institution was out of proportion to the homes from which some of the children came. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. KENNEDY suggested that Mr. Grimwade should state what he desired to add to the recommendations of the committee. Something definite should be proposed. They would consider any proposal whether as to contracts or anything else.

Dr. RALEIGH explained that the committee before this meeting assembled had made an alteration in the report in reference to the contract system, so that it now read, "it will be well for the managers to consider the question." Therefore a discussion now on that subject was unnecessary.

Mr. GRIMWADE, in continuation, observed he could say a great deal about the education received at the college. He had been over the building, and found it fitted up in the best possible manner to save labour and obtain results. The education was costly, but it was efficient, and they were told by the lady principal it was necessary to give such an education to obtain the result of the pupils passing the Cambridge examination. At the Lewisham School the scholars passed the examination well at a very much less cost than at Milton Mount.

A discussion ensued with reference to the scope of the education, especially in music, mathematics, and Latin, and the engagement of the outside professorial staff.

Mr. WRIGHT then moved that the report be approved and circulated under the direction of the committee and referred to the general board of management, with a request that they will take the suggestions therein contained into their consideration. He had listened to the report, as read, and to Mr. Grimwade's remarks. That gentleman spoke of the report as having been drawn up by a special advocate, meaning, no doubt, Mr. White, but if ever anyone appeared as a special advocate Mr. Grimwade had done so in the way he had gone, not to the consideration of the report, but against the report altogether. (Cries of "No, no.") The meeting would judge of that. Mr. Wright then made an exhaustive speech, in reply to Mr. Grimwade's remarks, and objections to the report made by other gentlemen present. He also commented upon the education imparted at the college, contrasting it with that of other institutions, and upon many other subjects embraced in the report. He knew that some of the girls sent to Milton Mount, on returning for their holidays, did not feel comfortable at home and were not as well fed as at the school, but he put it to the meeting whether a college for ministers' daughters should be brought down to a level to suit this particular class of girls? If so, he had made a mistake in subscribing to it, and it would not do to bring the treatment of all the girls at the college to suit the circumstances of a very small number of them. He thoroughly approved of the report as a report, although he had taken a slight exception to music as it was taught. Mr. Wright then discussed the terms of payment which had been dealt with by the committee, as also the sleeping accommodation for the pupils, of which he approved, as it afforded to the daughters of ministers the privilege of retirement, where they could kneel down and offer prayer without being the objects of remark, which was of the greatest importance for their moral and spiritual culture. It had been conclusively proved that the education and training at Milton Mount had enabled many of the girls to occupy very excellent positions, and how could ministers be more benefited than by giving their children the advantages of such an institution? When the pupils left the college they might become the teachers of others, and ultimately become wives—very probably the wives of ministers—and how could they do better service to the ministry than by preparing such a class of wives? It would, in fact, put into their hands a fortune of which no one could rob them. He would be glad if that apparently undying opposition to the college could be allayed, otherwise they must have the moral courage to close its doors, for the institution could never be carried on successfully while one party was very earnest in maintaining, and another party as strongly depreciating its influence and worth throughout the country. On the subject of economy, he was quite sure the strictest regard would be paid to that, and he hoped it was understood that if the institution existed its doors would be open without any obstruction whatever to the daughters of all their ministers—not the poorest only, but all of them—and until that was thoroughly understood the institution would not prosper. He concluded by moving the adoption of the report.

Mr. WILLS, in supporting this resolution, said that everyone present at the last meeting must have been satisfied that the only course open was a thoroughly independent and searching inquiry into the management of the school. He had had experience in the management of schools, and he did not think that the cost per head of the pupils at Milton Mount was at all extravagant. The report proved that the quality of the education was unexceptionable, and was equal to the very highest class of teaching in the kingdom, and was worth £100 a year. The object with which the college was established was to educate the pupils as ladies in order that they might have a proper amount of influence in society, and the ability to instruct others. He very much regretted that any jealous feeling should have existed, but until that was removed there was

but little chance of any body of gentlemen, however liberally they might contribute to it, in successfully carrying out the objects for which Milton Mount College was founded.

The Rev. Mr. BLANDFORD (of Herne Bay), in the course of a very lengthy and argumentative speech, which elicited considerable warmth of expression from several present, and much interruption, expressed his views very fully as to the contents of the report. He considered that, notwithstanding all the investigations, something more complete was wanted than the report of the investigation committee before the questions which had arisen could be satisfactorily disposed of, and he suggested that any action upon the report should be deferred until there had been an exhaustive and thorough examination into all matters connected with Milton Mount College. The amendment he proposed was to the effect :—

That this meeting, earnestly desiring to secure the prosperity of the college, the harmony of its present executive and subscribers, and the full confidence of the Congregational churches throughout the country, remits the report and the general management of the institution for still further investigation to a reconstituted committee.

This amendment, having been seconded by Mr. F. COLLINS, gave rise to a very long and somewhat personal and acrimonious discussion in reference to the accounts and many other subjects connected with the college, as also the proceedings of the committee of investigation and the manner in which their report had been prepared and issued. On the amendment being put to the meeting it was lost, there being in favour of it 4, and against it 34.

On the CHAIRMAN proposing to put the original resolution for the adoption of the report of the committee of investigation, Mr. HANNAY said the question of a graduated scale of payments for pupils at the college should be more deliberately considered. He had the strongest impression that the deliverance of the college from difficulty might come from that direction. He then gave the details of a graduated scale which would give the college an income of 4,200*l.* a year. He moved that the question of a graduated scale be remitted to the committee by way of rider to the motion for the adoption of the report.

Mr. GRIMWADE observed that the scale he proposed would add 1,275*l.* a year to the income of the college. Of course he preferred his own figures to those of Mr. Hannay, but nevertheless he would be very glad to second the proposed addition to the original resolution.

The CHAIRMAN then put to the meeting the resolution for the adoption of the report, to which was appended the following rider proposed by Mr. Hannay :—

That the board of management be recommended carefully to consider whether the graduated scale suggested by Mr. Conyers might not be adopted in some way which would secure a much larger income without interfering with the objects contemplated by the formation of the college.

On a show of hands there appeared in favour 34, and against it 2.

A vote of thanks to Mr. George White and the eight gentlemen associated with him as the committee for the time and labour they had devoted to investigation, as also a vote of thanks to the chairman, were passed unanimously, and the meeting terminated after a sitting of upwards of four hours.

NONCONFORMIST GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BISHOP'S STORTFORD.

The annual gathering of the parents and friends in connection with the Nonconformist Grammar School at Bishop's Stortford was held yesterday afternoon, under the presidency of Mr. E. Grimwade, J.P., chairman of the company. The large schoolroom, which was decorated with evergreens, was filled with a numerous company. The proceedings commenced by the singing of a hymn—

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun.

The head-master, the Rev. R. Alliott, then read a passage from the second chapter of Proverbs, and the Rev. F. S. Whitmee offered prayer.

The following Report was read :—

To the Rev. G. F. Browne, M.A., Secretary to the Cambridge University Syndicate for the Examination of Schools.

TITLE OF SCHOOL.

I have the honour to present, for the information of the Syndicate, the following Report on the Nonconformist Grammar School, Bishop's Stortford, which I have lately examined in accordance with your instructions.

NUMBER OF BOYS.

The number of boys in the school is 123, of whom seventeen are day-boys, the remainder boarders.

THE STAFF.

The head-master, the Rev. R. Alliott, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge, is assisted by five resident and two non-resident masters and a music mistress. This staff is ample.

THE SCHOOL PREMISES.

The school buildings, which have been sufficiently described in former reports, are well and healthily situated, and are admirably adapted for their purpose.

NATURE OF THE EXAMINATION.

The examination of the upper classes, which was conducted entirely by printed papers, occupied six days, morning, afternoon, and evening papers being given. The examination of the lower classes, which was mostly oral, was completed in four days.

THE SUBJECTS OF THE EXAMINATION.

The subjects of examination were Scripture Knowledge (Ezra, Nehemiah, Jeremiah), Whateley, Greek, Latin, German, French, Shakespeare's Julius Cæsar, English Grammar, English History, Physical and Political Geography, Arithmetic, Algebra, Euclid, Geometrical Conics, Trigonometry, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Freehand Drawing, Reading, Writing, Dictation.

DETAILED REPORT.

Scripture, &c.—The great majority of the school obtained a satisfactory proportion of the marks ; many good marks. In Form VI. Blomfield (88) and Whittaker I. (85) ; in Form V. Deare I. (89) ; and Bartholomew (88) ; and in the Upper III. Axtens (82) and Ewing (78) are deserving of very honourable mention.

Greek.—Brightman I. translated passages from Xen. Hellen. II. in a style generally good and accurate. Of a class of three who offered for examination the first 500 lines of the Prometheus Vinctus, Blomfield I. (80) deserves special commendation. The others translated fairly, but were deficient in parsing. A less advanced class, examined in Greek grammar and elementary exercises, acquitted themselves fairly well.

Latin.—Form VI. were examined on Ovid Ep. ex. Pont. II. and Cicero pro Balbo. Form V. were examined on Ovid Fasti VI. and Horace Car. IV. and Car. Seculare. The translation was generally fairly done by both Forms. Bartholomew (90) and Haddon and Nicholas (each 84) deserve very honourable mention. The work of the fourth was very weak ; their subject was Cæsar Bell. Gall. II. (1—16). Form III. (Upper) examined in Cæsar Bell. Gall. VII. (1—35), proved very unequal, satisfactory translations being sent up by the upper boys, but there was a great falling off towards the bottom of the form. Ewing deserves special commendation. In Form III. (Lower), who were examined on Nepos, the translations were generally satisfactory for the position of the form and the age of the boys. Unseen translation from Cæsar Bell. Gall. V. was attempted by Forms VI. and V.—well by a few of the highest in the Forms, and fairly by about half the number. Brightman I. (86) and Dobson (74) acquitted themselves very well. The grammar questions were as a rule well answered by the Upper classes, but considerable weakness was shown in the Lower Forms, in which many boys have been but a short time in the school. In Form III. (Lower), Gill (88) and Wood II. (87) ; in Form II. (Upper), Chapman II. (88) and Warren (77), and in Form II. (Lower), Winckworth (94) and Barns (90) are deserving of very honourable mention. Easy Latin Prose Composition was attempted by Forms VI. and V., with very poor results.

German.—The examiner in German reports that "In the Senior Class, Anstey (76) was pre-eminent for his creditable translation of some difficult German poetry (a subject undertaken by him alone). The prose translation of the remainder of the Senior Class was fair, and their exercise was very creditable and much superior to the grammar. Nicholas (62) deserves a special commendation. The Juniors, with some exception, acquitted themselves in a satisfactory manner ; the grammar exercises were about equal. Blomfield (64) deserves a special commendation ; Axtens (46) and Clutton (46) show some promise for the future.

French.—The translation of the Sixth from La Jeune Sibérienne and articles in *La Revue des Deux Mondes* were very good and nearly equal. Those of the Fifth from La Suite du Menteur were satisfactory ; those of the Fourth from Picciola (Chapters I.-IV) were fairly done and very equal ; those of the Upper Third from La Jeune Sibérienne were generally very well done ; those of the Lower Third from Madame Thérèse were very creditable. Those of the Upper and Lower Second from Histoires Amantes were very unequal, varying from a high to a very low standard. In the Upper Form Warren deserves very high commendation, and in the Lower Form Winckworth ; Davy and Chapman II. also deserve mention ; as also does Everett II. (78) in the Remove. Monsieur L. Boquel, who at my request set and looked over French grammar papers, reports that in Forms VI., V., and IV., "on the whole the grammatical questions were most satisfactorily answered ; but the translations from and into English were *very poor*. Anstey, Blomfield, Bartholomew, Hayward, Black, Clutton, Lauchlan, and Livens deserve commendation for their grammar."

Shakespeare.—Form V., who had a somewhat difficult paper on "Julius Cæsar," acquitted themselves very well ; but the style of the answers produced a decided impression that the boys might have sent up better worded and fuller answers if they had chosen to take the pains. The Forms below, down to the Upper Second, took an easier paper on the same play. Very little power of quoting was shown in any of these Forms, and only six boys out of fifty-six exceeded half marks, while the majority lay between three and four-tenths of the full marks. However, Wood III., one of the youngest boys in the four Forms, who gained eighty-one marks, is deserving of very high commendation for the general style and accuracy of his answers.

English Grammar.—A somewhat difficult paper set for Form VI. was well, or very well, answered. Brightman (77) deserves special commendation. Forms IV., III., Upper and Lower, and Form II. (Upper) all took another English Grammar paper. They all showed much weakness in analysis, and they are not strong in parsing—*e.g.* in the sentence "Home they brought her warrior dead," the great majority parsed "her" as a "feminine possessive pronoun." The English Grammar of Form II. (Lower) and of the Remove was very satisfactory. In the Upper Form Goodman I. (81), and Lees I. (78), and in the Lower Schofield (70), deserve to be honourably mentioned.

Geography.—In the Fifth Form Deare I (67) acquitted himself very well. The Form, as a rule, acquitted themselves fairly, but were not strong in this subject. A sketch map of Australia was pretty well drawn by many of the class, but few could show the positions of the principal fortresses, &c., in the seat of the late war. In Form VI. the answers were all scant and wanting in precision and thoroughness. Their subject was North America. Their answers to the questions on a separate paper on Physical Geography were of the same character. Forms IIIA. IIIB. took a paper on Europe with special reference to Turkey and Greece. Their maps were worthless, but their answers to questions were much better than those of the form above. In Form III. (Upper) Womersley (67) gained a very creditable proportion of the marks. The answering of Form II. (Upper) was, as a rule, satisfactory, and the same remark applies to the work of the form below. Hughes (82) in Form I. deserves commendation.

English History.—Form VI. proved themselves strong in this subject. It seems invidious to mention names. In Form V., where the work was generally very good, Deare I. (92) merits special commendation. The work of Form IV. was of a good average character, but the tendency to scamp their answers, noted above, was observed here also. In Form III. (Upper) a good standard was maintained ; Plack I. (71) and Ewing (69) distinguished themselves. Good work was sent up by the upper boys in Form III. (Lower), but a few fell below a pass standard. In Form II. (Lower) Hampton (76) distinguished himself : the form maintained a very good average. The work of the First was fair.

Arithmetic.—A high standard was maintained throughout the school. Whittaker I. (94) in Form VI. ; Hayward (92) in Form V. ; Peachey (28) in Form IV. ; Pearson (94) and Lee (90) in Form III. (Upper) ; Camps (95) in Form II. (Upper) ; Johnson (68) and Winckworth (65) in Form II. (Lower) ; Harvey II. (100) and Sadd II. (100) in the Remove ; and Robinson (64) in the first, are those who deserve special commendation out of the number of those who have done well in their several classes.

Algebra.—The Algebra papers for Forms VI. and V. were set in the evening of a hot day, when the boys were fagged by having done three papers already. This has probably influenced the marks, which are very poor as a rule, though Large (76) gained a very honourable proportion of the full marks. In Form IV. Job I (50) stood first ; in Form III. (Upper) Axtens (63) ; in Form III. (Lower) Wood II. (49). Others obtained a satisfactory number of marks, but much weakness was shown by the majority.

Euclid.—In Form VI. Whittaker I. (98) and Brightman I. (93) deserve very high commendation. Good marks were obtained by Form V. ; Hayward (65) was first with good marks. Of Form IV. Job I. (48) alone did creditably. In Form III. (Upper) Leechman 80) deserves honourable mention. Several others did well and the majority satisfactorily. The work of Form III. (Lower) was good, Cox (66) and Wood II. (60) headed their form with good marks.

Geometrical Lines.—In this subject taken by Form VI., Whittaker I. (62) alone obtained good marks. This is a new subject in which it is perhaps too early to look for good results.

Trigonometry.—In this subject, undertaken by Forms VI. and V., Whittaker I. (60) Page (67) alone obtained good marks. Several others did fairly, but the great number showed much weakness as regards the first principles of the subject.

Natural Philosophy.—Of the five members of Form VI. who attempted this paper, Brightman and Whittaker alone passed a satisfactory examination.

Chemistry.—Papers were taken by Forms VI., V., and IV. None of the boys obtained good, few satisfactory remarks. The answers were as a rule clear in their statement of operations and phenomena, but deficient as regards the explanation of the chemical changes that take place.

Freehand Drawing.—The copies made by the boys were of a uniformly good quality.

Reading.—A few volunteers were heard with a view to avoid a reading prize. Of these Anstey was considered first and Haddon second.

Writing.—The writing is generally good.

Spelling.—Very few mistakes in spelling were noted in the paper work of the Upper Form. In dictation the Upper II. did very well, as also did the majority of the Lower II. and of the Remove. Three out of seven in Form I. did very well, two showed some amount of weakness, and two did badly.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The smallness of the head class is very noticeable, and is, I believe, due to the fact that the boys are taken away from the school just when they are at length in a position to profit most by the educational facilities there afforded them. It would be very easy to form a large class capable of passing the London matriculation examination if the parents were willing to retain their sons in the school. It seems desirable also that a preparation school should be established in order to meet the backward state of some of the boys when admitted and to relieve the masters and their classmates of the drag which their presence in the classes inevitably causes.

In conclusion, I repeat the opinion which I expressed last year that both the masters and the boys deserve much credit for the generally excellent results obtained from the examination of the school.

My best thanks are due to the masters for constant aid towards facilitating the progress of the examination and for the care which they have taken in the arrangement of the boys' papers and the mark lists so as to spare me all avoidable trouble in marking the papers : without which aid it would have been well-nigh or quite impossible for me to prepare this report by the time desired.

J. H. TAYLOR,
M.A., Queen's College, Oxford,
M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge,
B.S., London.

Cambridge, July 22, 1878.

The CHAIRMAN then welcomed the friends on the occasion of what he called the annual field-day of the school. During the past year, he said, they had especial cause for thankfulness in the uninterrupted good health of the school. The alteration in the buildings had caused a great amount of thought and attention to the committee, and it was gratifying to find that they had proved satisfactory. It was a matter of great joy to the friends of the school that what was ten years ago an experiment had now become an accomplished fact, the school having taken its place among the institutions of the country. He was very thankful to think that such a good education was given at so moderate a cost. It was a matter of regret that parents took away their children so early, rarely at a later age than seventeen ; but as the boys could not be kept later, an effort was being made to establish a preparatory school for younger children, which he hoped would be well supported.

The Rev. E. R. CONDER, M.A., then addressed the boys, and took as his topic the word "earnestness," urging the lads to exhibit that quality throughout their lives. Fussiness, he said, was not to be mis-

taken for earnestness. The sailor at the helm always worked quietly, and sometimes quickly, but never fussily; he was perfectly in earnest, because he knew that the lives of all on board, and the safety of the ship, depended upon his efforts. Nor was hurry earnestness. A boy or a man might be very deliberate, yet very much in earnest. Some associated earnestness with dulness and melancholy, but no mistake could be greater. When a man stood with a rifle in his hand on the Scotch moors, watching for the stags to pass, he was in earnest. If you asked him, "Don't you feel very melancholy?" he would reply, "I never felt so jolly in my life; but don't speak a word." He meant to hit the stag, and knew that his whole man must be ready when the moment came. The reasons for earnestness were obvious. He once took lessons in broadsword exercise from a little Coastguardsman, who used to say, "If you are idle your enemy is not." That might be applied to many things. We all had a terrible enemy who was busy enough when we were idle. If we were idle, things were not. In going down a river towards a rapid, the easiest way to destruction was to sit in the boat and do nothing. Our duty was to work bravely and earnestly against the stream. The Germans had a proverb, "God's mills grind slowly, but they grind small." They were always going on. There was no such thing as stopping for a minute. A local preacher in Yorkshire used to say, "We ought to be very thankful that our time is given to us minute by minute, and not all in a lump." (Laughter.) The next reason for earnestness was that school-time was the most important part of boys' lives. They were then making themselves, moulding their own characters. A booby at school would never be a clever man; a coward at school would never be a brave man; a cheat at school would never be an honest man, except where the grace of God effected the change. A dunce, however, was not necessarily a booby or lazy. He remembered the case of a boy at a public school who had no talent for languages or mathematics, and who was voted a failure; but it was discovered that he was always hunting for beetles and tadpoles, and that he had a beautiful collection of them. One of the masters encouraged him in his efforts, and while he pursued his natural history, for which he had a genius, he also made greater progress in his other lessons. It was impossible to learn everything at school, but most boys had something in them which only required bringing out. A boy who was earnest about nothing would never accomplish anything worth having. All the coffee in the West Indies was the fruit of a single plant, taken thither by a Frenchman. He took out a number of plants, but when they were at sea water failed, and each passenger on board the ship was limited to a cupful. The Frenchman, knowing that he could not save all his plants, preserved the strongest, and robbed himself of half his cup of water every day to flourish it; and from that one all the plantations in the West Indies had sprung. That was an example of true earnestness. Then they should remember what they owed to their fathers and mothers. If they had not been earnest their children would not have the blessings which they now possessed. While willing to welcome fellow Christians of other denominations, they should not be in a hurry to hand down the old flag under which their forefathers had so well and so nobly fought. Their distinctions did not affect Christians. Men might be real honest Christians, fighting under the banner of Christ; yet every regiment loved its own flag, and their flag had been one that had been carried in many a battlefield. In impressing upon them true earnestness, he would remind them of the words of St. Paul, which were the keystone to the attainment of that quality, "Whatsoever ye do, do heartily as unto the Lord." In bidding them good-bye for their holidays, he hoped that they would be earnest in their play as well as in their work, so that they might return with increased vigour both of body and mind to pursue their studies. (Applause.)

Mr. S. MORLEY, M.P., previous to the distribution of the prizes, addressed the parents and scholars. He was a parent himself, and he could say with truth that he had always made the education of his children a subject of deep, constant, and prayerful consideration. The work that was being done in the school was a great one for the children, and he was glad to offer a word of congratulation on the manifest success which was attending its operations. He did not attach too much importance to the excessive amount of examinations that took place. The report that had been read was no doubt an honest one, but it was apt to place at an undue advantage clever boys, and was very apt to depress boys that were not considered quite so bright. While he would impress upon parents the thorough education of their children, and the unadvisability of taking them from school too soon, still his experience in his own warehouse had been that it was not the most brilliant who were always the most successful. In the report he was struck with the tendency that there was indicated on the part of the scholars to scamp work. His advice to the boys would be that they should be thorough—never to be ashamed of being ignorant on any subject, or of asking any question or explanation because they might be thought to be stupid by those of whom they made the inquiry. He should like to see them, as Nonconformists, preparing themselves for any influence they might be called upon to exercise in the future. He wished to impress upon parents the almost absolute necessity of providing for their children a University education, thus giving them a chance of a higher cultivation than they could otherwise secure by a school course; and he referred to the facilities which were afforded by the Cavendish College at Cambridge, which now admitted candidates of a less advanced age than heretofore. He thought that the tendency nowadays on the part of schools was to grant too many holidays, but, as the Cavendish College at Cambridge was now constituted, twelve months were saved in the shape of holidays out of the whole course of study. He also spoke of the importance of indoctrinating children in Nonconformist principles. Mr. Morley then distributed the prizes to the successful candidates, each boy receiving the customary bouquet of flowers from the hands of the Rev. E. White.

The following is the prize list:—

Form VI.—(1) Richard Howe Brightman, "The Tragedies of Æschylus," with Flaxman's designs, presented by Mr. Charles Lees; (2) Charles David Whittaker, "Flowers of the Upper Alps."

Form V.—(1) William Carey Sage, "Scott's Poems." (2) Arthur Nicholas, "Hood's Poems," illustrated by Birket Foster.

Special Prize.—Walter Brainard Hayward, "Dr. Gervinna's Shakespeare Commentaries."

Form IV.—Horace M. Livens, "Milton's Paradise Lost"; John Rendell Job, "White's Selborne."

Form III. (U.)—(1) John William Ewing, "The Leopold Shakespeare." (2) William Raymond Axtens, "Motley's Dutch Republic."

Form III. (*l*).—(1) Russell Howard Wood, "Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable." (2) Harold Edward Wood, "The Fern World—Heath." Special Prize.—James Macdonald Gill, "Foster's Essays."

Form II. (*u*).—(1) Henry Surtees Chapman, "Waterton's Natural History Essays." (2) John Williams Mills, "The Angler's Souvenir—P. Fisher."

Form II. (*b*).—(1) John Gladstone Winckworth, "Tennyson's Poems." (2) John Josiah Barns, "Giant Cities of Bashan."

Remove Form.—(1) John V. Gordes, "Strange Dwellings," by the Rev. J. G. Wood. (2) Harry Sadd, "Works of Lord Bacon."

Form I.—(1) Samuel Briscoe Brown, "Memories of a Brother"; (2) Frank Hughes, "Fac Simile Edition of Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress."

Good Conduct Prize.—Richard Howe Brightman, "Interleaved Greek Testament."

Music Prize.—Arthur Ulph Smith, "Superhuman Origin of the Bible," by Henry Rogers.

Drawing Prize, 1st Division.—Herbert Reynolds Best, "Tennyson's Poems."

2nd Division.—Edward Mayer Goodwin, "Clinton's War in the Peninsular."

Reading Prize.—William Basil Anstey, "Cobden's Speeches."

Drill Prize.—1st Division, John Chapman, "Songs of Two Worlds." 2nd Division, R. J. Howard Lovell, "Memoirs of a Brother."

Singing Prize.—John Duff, "Wit and Wisdom of Sidney Smith."

Writing Prize.—Robert James Hume, "The Temple," by George Herbert.

Sermon Prize.—William Ernest Blomfield, "Luther's Table Talk," presented by Mr. James Harvey.

Essay Prize.—Charles David Whittaker, "Selections from Lord Macaulay," presented by the Headmaster.

During the awarding of the prizes the bursts of applause that greeted the prize-holders told unmistakeably who were the more favoured in the eyes of their brother scholars.

The Rev. EDWARD WHITE, of London, who was announced to address the parents, said that grown-up people were able to give themselves advice, so that it was scarcely necessary for him to address them. From his experience as a preacher he had found that the only part of the sermon which did the old people good was that which was understood by the young people. The morning's proceedings recalled to his mind a scene that used to be enacted in the great city of Athens itself on the prize-day. It was surprising to note the changes that had taken place in the education of boys during the last 2,500 years. When Athens was in its power and might gymnasia were instituted, and in these three special subjects were studied—grammar, music, and gymnastics. Happily the boys then had not to learn Greek—(laughter)—because it was their mother tongue. The music they learnt was quite of another stamp to what it was nowadays. Each boy tried to learn battle songs, and to be able to play the small harp at their dinner-parties. The training of the body formed a large part of the Athenian lad's education. The Greeks seemed to be much more certain that they had bodies than they were that they had souls. They studied dancing, swimming, bathing, and every exercise that could make the body fit for hard work, and the consequence was that they governed the then civilised world. He did not for a moment say that he wished to see modern education conducted on the Athenian system. The modern system of education was quite different, and was due to Christianity and Divine revelation. In the present system of education the main thing was the formation of character. When boys went from school it would stand them in little stead if they were only good at mathematics, Greek, or singing, unless they turned out to be men. What was wanted in the present day was men with a will so strong that the world would make way for them—a will Divinely inspired and directed. The schoolmaster could not do the work of forming character unless he was supported and energised by home influences, which ought to be brought to bear on the characters of the boys with whose training he was entrusted. It was impossible to turn boys into Godlike men unless they had Godlike parents. Parents did not devote so much time as they might wish to do to the society of their children. Mr. Isaac Taylor had said that the last thing people succeeded in learning was the first principles of morals. He believed that that was true, and unless the teaching of morals was made the main business in education, young men and young women would not be properly turned out to take their places in society. He counselled them to learn pluck—not mere fighting pluck, but the moral pluck which would stand by a man who felt he was right, even when the multitude was not with him. Let them by all means be Nonconformists; but let them first of all be Catholics. He believed a new sort of Nonconformist was wanted, a man who knew the Church of England and Dissent well, and who would learn to combine the two qualties in his own character. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN then presented to the Rev. W. Cuthbertson "The Speaker's Commentary," bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to the Rev. W. Cuthbertson, B.A., Bishop Stortford, by the masters and boys of the Nonconformist Grammar School, as a mark of their esteem for him and his constant kindness to them on the occasion of his election to the chair of the Congregational Union of England and Wales for the years 1879-80."

Mr. S. MORLEY paid a fitting tribute to Mr. Cuthbertson's character and career, and that minister feelingly responded.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN a vote of thanks was heartily accorded to the headmaster and the matron of the girl's school, Mrs. Schaeffer.

The Rev. R. ALLIOTT, in returning thanks, referred to the progress that had been made, and to the evil that was caused to their after-life by the too early abstraction of the pupils from school. He thought that every boy ought to face the Cambridge Local Examination as a necessity, and that nothing but the most urgent circumstances should keep him back from such examinations.

The Rev. T. HILL then pronounced the benediction, and thus the business part of the proceedings terminated.

Immediately afterwards the parents and friends sat down to luncheon in the building set apart for athletic sports in wet weather. Mr. Grimwade again occupied the chair.

The CHAIRMAN having proposed the health of the Queen, which was duly responded to, proposed the thanks of the company to Mr. Morley for his attendance and services on the occasion.

The Rev. Mr. SAINSBURY briefly seconded the proposal, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. MORLEY, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, expressed the satisfaction he had felt in all that he had witnessed, in the harmony amongst the workers in the school, and in the reality of the work done in the establishment. He suggested that there might be too many subjects taught, and that it would be better to teach a few subjects thoroughly than a larger number indifferently. He also expressed an objection to military drill in schools as tending to foster a military spirit among the boys; and repeated the recommendation he had previously offered, that parents should refrain from removing their children from school at an early age, when they were beginning really to profit by the instruction they had received.

Mr. C. LEES proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. E. R. Conder and the Rev. E. White for their addresses.

The Rev. Mr. HILL, of Finchley, seconded the vote, and expressed his satisfaction at the improvement which had taken place in the school.

The Rev. E. CONDER acknowledged the vote of thanks, and said it had afforded him great pleasure to be present and see the bright faces of the lads whom he had addressed. The visit would leave a very pleasant impression on his mind. He ventured to differ from Mr. Morley with regard to the effect of military drill, which he thought might often prove a useful training to boys, accustoming them to act in concert with prompt and strict obedience.

The Rev. E. WHITE also acknowledged the vote of thanks, and said a word in favour of military drill, believing that a man would not be the worse citizen for being taught to hold himself upright.

On the motion of Mr. PORTWAY, seconded by Mr. POOLE, a vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman, with whose acknowledgment the proceedings terminated.

In the evening the friends took tea as usual at the girls' school, where they were entertained with vocal and instrumental music chiefly by the young ladies of the establishment.

THE CONGRESS AND THE PROTOCOLS.

The Foreign Office issued on Monday a bulky document containing correspondence relating to the Berlin Congress, and the protocols of the meetings of the Plenipotentiaries.

Mr. Cross, on the 6th of June last, informed the Earl of Beaconsfield and the Marquis of Salisbury that they had been appointed Plenipotentiaries to the Congress in conjunction with Lord Odo Russell, and that it was Her Majesty's pleasure that they keep him constantly informed of the proceedings of the Congress, and especially of any new questions not hitherto considered by the Cabinet, which might arise in the course of the proceedings. In a subsequent communication, Mr. Cross informs Her Majesty's Plenipotentiaries that it is necessary they should urge the withdrawal of the Russian troops from the immediate neighbourhood of Constantinople, and that they should advocate the claims of Greece to be represented at the Congress. The claims of Roumania and Servia in this respect were not wholly free from question, but Her Majesty's

Government nevertheless would be glad to see an indulgent view taken of their request, and to support their admission to those sittings which specially concerned them.

Following this, there is a despatch dated the 8th June, from the Marquis of Salisbury to Lord Odo Russell, in which the objects of the British Cabinet in going into Congress are set out in detail. The following are its leading paragraphs :—

"The matters which are dealt with in the earlier articles of the Treaty of San Stefano may not be considered as interesting England in a primary degree, but will not the less require the vigilant attention of the Plenipotentiaries. The frontiers, for example, to be assigned to Servia and Montenegro, and the arrangements to be made with respect to Bosnia and Herzegovina, though they are all comprised within the provisions of the Treaty of Paris, and therefore come within the category of subjects on which England is entitled, if she thinks fit, to express and sustain her opinion, belong to this class of questions.

"Your counsels on these points will, in the first place, be directed to assure the welfare and the good government of the populations concerned, and you will not forget the ancient alliance between Austria and this country, and the general coincidence of their interests. It is important that, in the discussions of the Congress on these matters, you should support any legitimate proposals tending to benefit and strengthen the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. But in doing so you will bear in mind that if Russia should ultimately adhere to the proposals of the preliminary treaty, these do not touch the interests of England so closely as to justify the Plenipotentiaries in pushing their opposition so far as to break up the Congress on that account.

"On the other hand, the proposed annexations in Asia, which have an injurious bearing upon the interests of Great Britain, are not likely to excite any serious opposition on the part of the other European Powers. It is understood that there will be little difficulty in inducing the Russian Government to make considerable concessions in respect to that part of the conquered territory which includes the caravan route from Trebizond to Tabreez. But there is no ground for believing that Russia will willingly give way in respect to Batoum, Kars, or Ardahan; and it is possible that the arguments of England, urged in Congress, will receive little assistance from other Powers, and will not be able to shake her resolution in this respect. You will not on that account abstain from earnestly pressing upon them and upon Russia the justice of abstaining from annexations which are unconnected with the professed objects of the war, and profoundly distasteful to the populations concerned, and the expediency, in regard to the future tranquillity of Asia, of forbearing to shake so perilously the position of the Government of Turkey. In the event of the failure in this respect of the efforts of the English Plenipotentiaries, you will be made acquainted with the course which Her Majesty's Government have decided to pursue.

"The other portions of the Treaty concern other Powers as well as England, and it is probable that, in respect to them, the English Plenipotentiaries will not be left to stand alone. None of the Powers, indeed, appear to attach so much importance to the union of Bessarabia with Moldavia, provided for in the Treaty of Paris, as to be willing to prevent by force the retrocession of that region by Roumania—not even those Powers to whose trade the Danube is an important outlet. England, therefore, whose direct interests are little affected, and whose means of action are comparatively restricted, could not assume the responsibility of doing so. A distinct protest, however, should be entered against a violation of international law, for which there seems to be little excuse, and which cannot be justified by reference to the purposes with which the war was undertaken. At the same time, the rights of the Powers with respect to the navigation of the Danube must be fully respected, and no countenance must be given to an interpretation of the 19th article of the Treaty of San Stefano which would give to Russia in any case the power of keeping the Dobrudscha as Russian territory.

"If, indeed, it shall happen that Roumania should refuse to make the retrocession of Bessarabia in exchange for the equivalent which is offered, a case will arise which is not referred to in the Treaty of San Stefano, and which will be outside the competence of a Congress summoned only to consider that Treaty.

"The demand of Russia to be exclusively consulted as to the administrative institutions at Bulgaria, Thessaly, Epirus, Crete, and the other provinces of Turkey in Europe, cannot be accepted by the other Powers, and will probably not be maintained in argument. The claims which will undoubtedly be advanced by the Government of Greece in reference to some of these provinces, will receive the careful consideration of Her Majesty's Plenipotentiaries, and I doubt not of the representatives of the other Powers.

"The constitution of the province of Bulgaria will, especially, merit the attention of the English Plenipotentiaries. The tributary principality, which under the treaty extends to the Ægean on the south, and beyond the Lake of Ochrida on the west, and trenches closely on the important towns of Adrianople and Salonica, requires very material reduction. In the judgment of Her Majesty's Government it should not be allowed to extend south of the Balkan range. Those parts of the territory south of that chain which are principally inhabited by Bulgarians ought to have the protection of institutions generally similar to those which were proposed at the Conference of Constantinople. Great care, however, should be taken that while every necessary safeguard is provided for the good government of the population, the political and military authority of the Sultan's Government is sufficiently secured to provide against the risk of this province being made the field of treasonable intrigues, or the gate of an invading army. While it may be proper that the Turkish forces should not be cantoned among the body of the Bulgarian population, and especially in the neighbourhood of the towns which have been the scenes of lamentable calamities, it is very important, for the security of Constantinople, that they should continue to occupy the passes of the Balkans. England could not acquiesce in the institution of any local militia in that province, unless its principal officers are nominated by the Sultan.

"It is essential that the Greek populations, which have been so largely included in the New Bulgaria by the Treaty, should be preserved from the danger of absorption by a dominant Slav population, that Salonica and Cavalla should be kept at a distance from the jurisdiction of any State likely to fall under the influence of Russia, and that the Ægean littoral generally should remain in the hands of the Porte. But it is scarcely less important that, in the arrangements made for the government and defence of the territory south of the Balkans, the position of the Sultan should be made strategically so secure as to enable him to discharge independently the political duties which he has to perform.

"The provision of the preliminary treaty, under which Russian troops will be permitted to occupy Bulgaria for two years with a force of 50,000 men, would enable Russia to impress her influence deeply, and perhaps ineffaceably, upon the organisation of the new community. It will be the object of the Plenipotentiaries to diminish the length and force of this occupation to the utmost possible extent.

"The financial questions arising out of the indebtedness of Turkey, the indemnity imposed upon her, and the distribution of all the liabilities she has incurred among the provinces which have acquired a complete or partial independence, will require the most careful attention of the Plenipotentiaries. The difficulties will be chiefly in detail, but as a matter of principle it will be necessary to provide that the securities to which Her Majesty's Government as creditors of the Porte are entitled, should be left entirely unaffected by the operation of the Treaty. Care must also be taken that the indemnity payable in money shall not under any circumstances be made the pretext for a new demand of territory.

"In respect to the Straits of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, which are dealt with in the 24th Article of the Treaty, Her Majesty's Government will, in preference to the provisions of that article, insist on the maintenance of the regulations which existed before the war."

The protocols follow.

At the first sitting, on June 13th, Lord Beaconsfield brought up the question of the nearness of the Russian army to Constantinople, and urged that it might be productive of serious danger to the peace of Europe. Prince Gortschakoff answered that the Emperor of Russia was anxious solely for the benefit of the Christian populations, and Count Schouvaloff suggested that the retreat of the Russian forces might be productive of much greater evils than the one suggested by the English Prime Minister. The danger of a sudden capture of Constantinople, he declared no longer existed, and was even impossible. In the result it was held that the British proposal was not necessary to be carried out, and Lord Beaconsfield expressed himself satisfied with the discussion which had taken place.

At the second meeting of the Congress, Lord Salisbury brought up a proposal to admit Greece to a direct representation, or at least to assist at all sittings in which questions in connection with the interests of the Greek race shall be discussed. The question was adjourned until the next meeting, but Prince Gortschakoff desired it to be recorded that he was anxious that the Congress should look upon the representatives of Russia not as exclusively concerned with the interests of the Slavs, but as taking an interest in all the Christian populations of Turkey. Prince Gortschakoff declared, therefore, beforehand, that he would identify himself with the measures adopted in favour of the Greeks; he would even demand for the Greeks of the Ottoman Empire an autonomy similar to that which was claimed for the Slavs. The object of his Government was to draw these two races closer to each other. The remainder of the second sitting was occupied with a discussion of the articles of the Treaty of San Stefano which relate to Bulgaria, and Lord Salisbury proposed that the tributary autonomous principality of Bulgaria should be restricted to the part of European Turkey which is situated to the north of the Balkans, and that the province of Roumelia and all other territory south of the Balkans shall be under the direct political and military authority of the Sultan, all necessary precaution being taken that the welfare of the populations shall be protected by sufficient guarantees of administrative autonomy, or in some other manner. The discussion was adjourned, and Prince Bismarck suggested that the Powers chiefly concerned try to arrange their differences in private conferences.

At the third sitting Lord Salisbury's motion with regard to the admission of Greece was discussed, and it was resolved to accept the proposition of France, that the Greek representative should be summoned to the Congress whenever the Plenipotentiaries deemed it necessary. Lord Salisbury moved an amendment to the effect that Greece should be present whenever any Greek provinces were in question, instead of the frontier provinces, as proposed in the French version. The Congress divided, Austria and Italy voting with Great Britain, and Turkey abstaining. There being, therefore, an equal number of votes on both sides, the amendment was lost, and therefore, with respect to the provinces not bordering on Greece, such as Macedonia and Crete, it remained to be discussed in each individual case whether Greece was on that occasion to be admitted or not.

At the fourth sitting the English proposals with regard to Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia were brought forward and practically adopted, Russia making a number of concessions.

At the seventh sitting Prince Gortschakoff regretted that illness had prevented his attending some of the previous meetings. His absence had not depended on his will, but he would wish to say, as shortly as possible, a few words, inspired by the spirit of conciliation which directs him. Lord Beaconsfield, in a preceding sitting, had expressed the desire that the Sultan should be master in his own dominions. His Serene Highness, like Lord Beaconsfield, desired that the Sultan should be master in his own dominions; but he thought the existence of this authority depended upon certain conditions, without which genius itself could not accomplish miracles. In the opinion of the first Plenipotentiary of Russia, these conditions were administrative and political. It was of importance, from an administrative point of view, that the inhabitants of the provinces which should not have been declared independent by the Congress might be assured of their possessions, lives, &c., not by promises on paper, which might, like the former ones, not be carried out, and prevent neither abuses nor exactions, but by a European agreement which might assure their efficacy and inspire the population with confidence from a political point of view. Prince Gortschakoff observed that, instead of an English, French, or Russian preponderance, which history showed to have existed at Constantinople at different periods, he would wish that there should be in the East no preponderance whatever, not more for Russia than for any other State, and he would desire to see substituted for the paltry and deleterious struggle of individual rivalries on the shifting ground of Constantinople, a collective action of the Great Powers which would spare the Ottoman Porte many illusions and many faults. His Serene Highness, making use of an expression which would certainly appear to every man competent in the art of war to be justified by the heroic efforts of the Russian armies, observed that Russia brought hither laurels, and he hoped that the Congress would convert them into olive branches.

Lord Beaconsfield said that he felt a lively satisfaction in seeing Prince Gortschakoff resume his seat in the Congress, and he looked upon the eloquent speech of His Serene Highness as a happy evidence of the improvement in his health. His Excellency, recalling the words of the Plenipotentiary of Russia, in relation to the considerable sacrifices to which the great Sovereign and the great country so worthily represented by His Serene Highness had consented with a view to peace, considered himself fully authorised to say that he himself and his English colleagues had in like manner made important concessions with the same pacific intention. Peace was, in fact, the wish of Europe, and he (Lord Beaconsfield) was happy to note, in accordance with the words which he had just heard, the now unanimous expression of this sentiment. But, in order to accomplish this wish, the spirit of conciliation was still necessary. His Excellency had beyond this nothing more to say concerning the considerations presented by Prince Gortschakoff, which he had listened to with the greatest pleasure.

At the final sitting of the Congress, Prince Bismarck, replying to a vote of thanks, said :—"Gentlemen,—At the moment of separating, I do not hesitate to affirm that the Congress has deserved well of Europe. If it has been found impossible to realise all the aspirations of public opinion. History will nevertheless do justice to our intentions and to our work, and the Plenipotentiaries will have the consciousness of having, as far as was possible, given and secured to Europe the great benefit of peace, which was so gravely menaced. This result cannot be diminished by any criticism which the spirit of party may be able to publish. I have the firm hope that the European understanding will, with the help of God, be lasting, and that the personal and cordial relations which during our labours have been established between us, will strengthen and consolidate good relations between our Governments."

Mr. Brinley Richards, the composer, and Mr. E. J. Hopkins, the Temple organist, who were the examiners in the competition for the musical scholarship in the Ladies' Division of the Crystal Palace School of Art, Science, and Literature, awarded the prize to Miss H. Blagden, of Sydenham.

A tramp was arrested, taken before an American justice, and sentenced for three months. His worship, in explaining the sentence, remarked that while there was no evidence that the prisoner had been guilty of any crime, he thought it prudent to commit him, as he had the wild, haggard look of a man about to start a newspaper.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

The Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, who has represented the City of London during the last fifteen years, has announced his intention of retiring at the end of the present Parliament. In his address to the Liberal electors he says:—

Proud as I am of the long connection which has existed between us, and most reluctant to forego the conspicuous honour of fighting another battle in your behalf, I cannot look to my own wishes and my own position alone. Everything must give way to the immense importance of the struggle for the recovery of a larger number of seats by the Liberals in the city being waged under the most favourable circumstances, and with the strongest possible candidates. My votes and opinions on the county franchise question disqualify me in this respect, and, accordingly, I feel bound to abstain from contesting one of the seats.

The existence of the minority vote in the city increases the obligation on my part not to come forward as a candidate. If, by any mischance, the Liberals should again be represented only by a minority member, it is clearly a matter of paramount importance to the party that the member should in all respects, and on all the most prominent questions of the day, be in thorough and absolute accord with those who returned him. In this respect, too, I must hold myself to be disqualified by my county franchise vote.

It is stated that Mr. Goschen's decision has occasioned great regret among the Liberals in the city, and an attempt will be made to induce him to reconsider it. The Conservatives have issued a circular expressing approval of the "courageous and statesmanlike policy of Her Majesty's Government in relation to foreign affairs," and recommending Alderman R. N. Fowler and Baron Henry de Worms as suitable candidates in the event of any of the present members retiring.

It is expected that Lieutenant-Colonel Seely and the Hon. Auberon Herbert, brother of Lord Carnarvon, will be the Liberal candidates for Nottingham at the next election. Both gentlemen have previously sat for the constituency. The present senior member, Captain Denison, will not again stand, but will offer himself for the county. His colleague, Mr. Isaac, intends again to contest the borough in the Conservative interest.

Mr. Albert Grey has declined to stand for Berwick, having accepted an offer to become the second Liberal candidate for Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The two sections of the Liberal party at Northampton are now united in support of Mr. A. S. Ayrton, and some of the Radicals still insist upon Mr. Bradlaugh. It is said that a Permissive Bill candidate will also come forward.

Mr. J. Dick Peddie, of Edinburgh, has definitely intimated that he will offer himself as a candidate for the Kilmarnock Burghs; and Mr. Commissioner Kerr, of London, who is at present going the round of the Burghs, is expected to announce his candidature in a few days. The sitting member, Mr. Fortesque-Harrison, will again solicit the suffrages of the electors.

Obituary.

DEATH OF THE REV. WILLIAM BRADEN.

The Weigh House congregation at the morning service on Sunday last were shocked to learn from the deacons, by whom the earlier portion of the service was conducted, that their pastor, the Rev. William Braden, had ceased to live on the preceding day (Saturday, July 20). Intimate friends had noticed for months past that he had had a worn and jaded look. Though not well, he preached on Sunday evening, the 14th inst. On the next day he was attacked by congestion of the brain, from the effects of which he suffered until between one and two in the morning of the following Saturday, when he expired. Mrs. Braden, having herself been the subject of illness, which caused him some anxiety, had been away from home for the benefit of her health. She was able to return during his last week of life, and to minister to him in his dying moments. From the nature of the disease beneath which he was smitten down, Mr. Braden was conscious only at intervals. At these times appropriate and consolatory passages of Scripture were repeated to him. "Tell me more! Tell me more!" he was heard to exclaim. "Do you know where you are going"? he was asked. An upward look and a wave of the hand in the same direction as the response when powers of speech had failed.

William Braden was only in the thirty-eighth year of his age when his career was thus suddenly brought to a close. He was born in Marylebone in 1840. Trained under the influence of pious parents, he never forgot what he owed to their precept and example, and on at least one public occasion he gave expression to his belief as to the joy which would have swelled his father's breast had he lived to witness the ministerial success which he ultimately attained. Another power beneath which his mind was brought, in its formative period, and to which he was accustomed to ascribe not a little influence in moulding his aims and aspirations, was the genius of Charles Kingsley in his published writings. His secular education may be said to have been received at Maida Hill Grammar School. His religious consecration, and his resolve to enter the ministry, dated from his connection with the church at Paddington Chapel, under the pastorate of the Rev. James Stratten. In 1857 he entered Cheshunt College, having previously undergone a course of preparatory study at Bedford, conducted by the Rev. W. Alliott. Mr. Braden entered the ministry in 1860, when he became pastor of the Congregational Church at St. Albans. Here a clergyman, whose name deserves to be recorded—the Rev. Mr. Dudding—became so friendly with the young Dissenting minister and his flock, as to make them a present of an organ for their chapel, an act for which Mr. Dudding is said to have been visited by the displeasure of his bishop. In 1866 Mr. Braden was invited to Huddersfield, where as in his first charge, he became the object of warm attachment on the part of his people, and produced a powerful impression by his preaching. What that impression must have been may be judged by an anecdote which, as we narrate it blends the facts, as we heard them from the lips of both the men concerned, and both of whom are now gone from among us.

It was, we believe, in 1870, that, on a certain Sunday, in a quiet watering-place in the North of England, William Braden, having been invited to supply the pulpit of the Congregational Church, learned, after his arrival, that he was likely to have as one of his hearers Thomas Binney. The men were unknown to each other; but, of course, the fame of the old Divine was familiar enough to the young preacher. He reflected. There were two sermons in his bag, and but two; and they, we believe, were old ones. He was not quite sure whether either would be equal to the occasion. But the choice was a narrow one; and for the service at which the Nonconformist patriarch was to be present, Mr. Braden took into the pulpit a discourse on the history of Joseph. Whether the preacher observed what followed, we know not. But we know what actually occurred, from the testimony of Mr. Binney himself. Not only was his attention fully engaged, but his feelings were touched, and he was deeply affected. "I sat and wept like a child," were his words.

The young preacher, as our readers are aware, became Mr. Binney's successor in the Weigh House pastorate. Mr. Braden entered on the duties of that office on the first Sunday in February, 1871. He had thus nearly completed seven years and a half of service in this, his last and most influential, sphere of labour. What that service effected must, we fear, be learned in some degree by its loss. A revived church, with its various organisations reanimated and increased — the latest addition being a flower mission — a more commodious and seemly place of worship, with appropriate accessories for lectures and for teaching the young; the renewed culture of psalmody, and the culture, not less important, of fraternal fellowship—these are among the visible results of the work now ended. And who shall say that the invisible are not greater still?

This is not the place to attempt an analysis of Mr. Braden's power as a preacher or pastor. But apart from his natural power and fluency of speech, which were brought under assiduous cultivation, we must mention, as we have illustrated above, a spirit of tender sympathy with all that is noblest in our nature, and his command over the best feelings of his hearers. But the preacher, after all, was less than the man. And if the one might well be admired, the other had but to be known, and he must be loved. Even those who knew but little of him must have learned that he carried a warm heart in his breast. His theological views were strictly evangelical, but they were held with the utmost liberality towards those who differed from him. An uncompromising Nonconformist, he was a member of the committee of the Liberation Society.

For the last five or six years, besides discharging the duties of the pastorate and delivering lectures on historical and other subjects, which must have cost him some pains, Mr. Braden was the editor of the *English Independent*, in which office he succeeded the late Mr. Turberville, who also, it may be remembered, died somewhat suddenly.

Mr. Braden leaves a widow and five young children. His mother also survives him.

The funeral takes place to-morrow at Kensal Green Cemetery, at two o'clock.

J. F. O.

REV. ROBERT ASHTON.

The Rev. Robert Ashton passed away on Sunday last, at the ripe age of eighty-one, having been born at Hull, in March, 1798. His death may literally be said to have been a translation. He was seated at the tea-table with his family at home, when a sudden affection of the heart rendered him unconscious and speedily lifeless. He had been present in the morning at the Rev. S. Hebditch's church in Clapton, and had given a brief address at a baptismal service. In his case the fear of death was mercifully removed; for he had often expressed apprehensions concerning the physical pains and weakness attendant upon dissolution; but all these were spared to him. For some months he had been in failing health, and it was evident that a decay of nature had commenced. Only last week, however, he returned from Hastings, where he had been on a visit, and derived considerable benefit from the change. While there, he wrote to some of his oldest and most valued friends, expressing his Christian hope and trust in beautiful terms, and stating that his work was finished, and that all his affairs were arranged. He had gradually withdrawn himself from the fatigue and anxiety of public life, although he continued almost to the last in harness, so far as concerned the editorship of the *Congregational Year Book*, which had been under his sole charge since its commencement in 1849. How diligently, patiently, and faithfully he laboured in this department of denominational usefulness is pretty generally known, although few can have any conception of the immense amount of time and labour devoted to the collection and arrangement of numberless minute details. With Mr. Ashton all this was a labour of love, and called forth a measure of service such as could not be compensated by the honorarium allotted to him. In another sphere, as one of the secretaries of the London Board of Congregational Ministers, he served gratuitously for twenty-nine years, and when he retired two years ago, his brethren expressed their sense of his worth in a testimonial to which large numbers outside the Board gladly and generously contributed. To the present generation Mr. Ashton is chiefly known by his official connection with the Congregational Union of England and Wales, of which he became secretary in 1852. During the long period of eighteen years in which Mr. Ashton held the office, until his retirement in 1870, after the decease of the Rev. Dr. George Smith rendered necessary some organic changes in the Union, no face was more familiar to the brethren. Some of them thought him cold and official, for he did not wear his heart upon his sleeve, but those more intimately acquainted with him knew the kindness, the generosity, and the considerateness of his nature, his zeal for everything that related to the interests of the denomination, and his loyalty to Christ and His truth. Mr. Ashton was also for many years the zealous and efficient secretary of the Christian Instruction Society, of the Surrey Mission, and of the Christian Witness Fund. He was the editor of the works of John Robinson, and had a profound and appreciative admiration for him and his venerable associates. As a theologian Mr. Ashton held by the ancient landmarks, and although never a popular preacher, his sermons were always marked by solid truth, and were enforced by his own consistent character. So long ago as 1850 he relinquished the regular pastorate, having filled that at Platt Chapel, Putney, for eleven years. Prior to that he was settled at Warminster from 1832 to 1839, and at Dedham, Essex, from 1824 to 1832; having received his ministerial training at Hoxton College, which he entered in 1819, on the recommendation of the now extinct church of Gate-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, at that time under the pastoral care of the Rev. Griffith Williams. The funeral is fixed to take place on Friday next in Abney Park Cemetery, but there will be a preliminary service at three o'clock in Clapton Park Chapel (the Rev. S. Hebditch's). In compliance with an expressed wish of Mr. Ashton's, and in strict conformity with his unassuming character, there will be no formally-appointed deputations from the many societies with which he was identified; yet, doubtless, many who knew and esteemed him will testify, by their presence at the grave, respect for his character and work.

Epitome of News.

The Queen and Court are now at Osborne, where they are expected to remain about a month, and thence proceed to Balmoral. Prince Leopold remains at Windsor Castle, being confined to the house with a sprained knee.

Lord Beaconsfield left London on Saturday afternoon, on a visit to Her Majesty at Osborne. The Queen's dinner party included Princess Beatrice, Lady Waterpark, the Hon. Horatia Stopford, the Hon. Amy Lambart, the Earl of Beaconsfield, Lieutenant-General Ponsonby, and Mr. Corry.

The Earl of Beaconsfield has been invested by Her Majesty the Queen with the Order of the Garter. The ceremony took place at Osborne on Monday morning. The Premier was introduced to the Royal presence by Sir John Cowell, Master of the Household, preceded by Sir Albert Woods, bearing the Insignia of the Order. Her Majesty then conferred the honour of knighthood upon Lord Beaconsfield, who kissed hands, and Her Majesty having received the Garter, delivered it to him, and afterwards invested him with the Riband and George of the Order. The other vacant Garter has been conferred upon Lord Salisbury.

On Monday the Prince and Princess of Wales paid an informal visit to the London Hospital in the Whitechapel-road, the only general institution of its kind which mitigates human suffering amongst the dense population of the Tower Hamlets.

It is stated at Hereford that the Duke of Connaught has taken Maesllwch Castle, late the residence of Captain de Winton, deceased, on a lease, and intends after his marriage residing there.

The Duke of Edinburgh, who has lately been rather indisposed, is to be granted a few weeks' leave of absence "so soon as affairs at Cyprus have settled down."

The Carlton Club banquet to Lord Beaconsfield has been fixed for next Saturday. It will take place at the Duke of Wellington's Riding School.

The usual Mansion House banquets to ministers will be given on Saturday, August 3.

The Court of Common Council have resolved to present, in gold boxes, the freedom of the City to the Premier and the Marquis of Salisbury, in testimony of their appreciation of the services rendered by them in connection with the Berlin Congress. The event is expected to come off an hour before the Mansion House banquet.

A summary of last Thursday's debate in the

House of Lords was telegraphed at intervals of one hour to Her Majesty at Windsor Castle.

Lord Dufferin, the Governor-General of Canada, is expected home about the middle of September.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has appointed Mr. Edward Wingfield to the Assistant Under-Secretaryship in the Colonial Office vacated by the retirement of Mr. W. R. Malcolm.

In a letter to the Rev. J. C. Gill, on July 19, after referring to the efforts made "especially by Mr. Gladstone" for peace, Mr. Bright writes:—"The war Government is now seeking credit for having kept the peace. Let us be thankful that war has been avoided. Each war avoided is in some degree a guarantee for future peace. Unhappily, our people understand little of foreign affairs, and, having never known war in their own country, they are easily excited by an unscrupulous Minister and a party Press. I take some comfort in believing that Christian sentiment in favour of peace has been more active during the past year than at any former period."

Mr. Moncure D. Conway states that a lady has authorised him to offer 1,000*l.* towards the formation of a fund to provide some means for the collegiate education of women at Oxford, subject to the condition that an equal sum be subscribed within the next few months.

On Friday, as Mr. Walter Grey, Neston, was walking through Wepre-park, Hawarden, he was attacked by a ferocious bull. Mr. Grey, a one-armed gentleman, possessing great strength, dodged the bull, but was eventually tossed. The bull made a violent butt at him, but he grasped the beast by the nose-ring and clung firmly to it for two hours, during which the bull madly endeavoured to toss and gore him. He was found covered with blood and frightfully lacerated. He received medical attention at Connah's Quay, and was then removed home in a critical state.

The Home-Rulers are displaying some activity in the metropolitan boroughs. They have organised registration committees in Chelsea, Fulham, Southwark, Deptford, Greenwich, Tower Hamlets, Marylebone, and Finsbury. In Finsbury five meetings will be held next week in different sections of the borough, and will be attended by several Irish M.P.'s. In Marylebone an active canvass for claims for registration is being carried on.

A resolution was passed on Friday by the Political Committee of the Manchester Reform Club strongly condemning the Eastern policy of the Government. The committee were of opinion that the action of the Government at Berlin and in taking over Cyprus did not serve the interests either of Great Britain or Europe; that they had lowered the dignity of the country, set constitutional law at defiance, and deserved the censure of the nation; and called upon Liberal members to resist to the utmost the grant of supplies to carry out the policy of the Government.

Mr. John B. Gough, well known in this country and America as a lecturer on temperance, arrived on Saturday at Liverpool, where he was met by representatives of the National Temperance League and the United Kingdom Band of Hope Union. He has consented to deliver a few lectures during a visit which he is making to Europe for rest and recreation.

The cutting of oats has commenced in some parts of Essex, and harvest is expected to become general in the county in about a fortnight. There is a much larger yield of all kinds of grain than last year, and in many instances almost double the quantity of straw.

Orders have been received at Devonport Dockyard for the weekly discharge of hands until the staff shall have been reduced by 1,100 men.

On Friday morning a tank of 2,000 gallons of creosote, which was being conveyed from Birmingham to South Wales, burst at Hereford and ran into the river Wye, killing a great quantity of salmon, trout, and other fish.

The Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund amounted on Saturday to 22,300*l.* This includes a balance of 1,000*l.* from last year's account.

The Grosvenor Gallery was opened on Sunday evening free to all who had applied to the Sunday Society for tickets, and between six and eight o'clock about 3,000 persons entered the gallery. The restaurant was not opened.

The Political Committee of the Reform Club have elected Mr. Henry Dunckley, editor of the *Manchester Examiner and Times*, a member of the club. This was in exercise of a privilege which enables the committee to elect, from time to time, members who have rendered important service to the Liberal cause. Mr. Dunckley is the author of the pamphlet lately published under the title of "The Crown and the Constitution."

The Committee of the House of Commons on Parliamentary Reporting are stated to have determined on their report. The London papers have hitherto striven for a monopoly of "the gallery," and whilst one of those journals keeps some fifteen seats for its own staff, the Press Association, which supplies nearly all the provincial daily papers, has been elbowed aside, and refused adequate accommodation. The Committee recommends that proper facilities should now be afforded.

The ancient custom of assembling on St. Swithin's Day in the orchards and christening the apples was duly observed in some parts of Kent and Surrey on Monday. It is popularly believed that all the apples found upon the trees on this day will mature and ripen.

The Dundee town council on Friday, by sixteen votes to seven, resolved to forward an address of congratulation to Lord Beaconsfield on the conclusion of the Treaty of Berlin.

The mansion and estate of Crow Nest, near Halifax, the residence of the late Sir Titus Salt, Bart., have been purchased from the trustees under the will of the deceased baronet, by Mr. Richard Kershaw, silk spinner, Brighouse.

The prices paid for deer forests in Scotland this year are enormous. The highest is probably Glenstrathfarar, Inverness-shire, the property of Lord Lovat, and let to Mr. Winans, an American, at an annual rent of something like 7,000*l.*, to which must be added the cost of gillies, hill ponies, &c. In Forfarshire there are two valuable forests only, one in Invermark, the property of the Earl of Dalhousie, and let to Sir R. Bateson Harvey, at a rent of 3,000*l.* a year, the second being Caenlochan, belonging to the Earl of Airlie, and let to Sir Brooke Middleton for 1,600*l.* a year.

A shocking occurrence has been brought to light in the village of Crayford, near Dartford, Kent. A Greenwich licensed victualler, named Sands, finding that his receipts did not come up to his expectations, took three of his little children out for a walk, and having murdered them committed suicide.

The weather was specially hot last week. The thermometer in the sun at Wimbledon on Friday reached 149 deg., a temperature never exceeded since the Wimbledon meetings have been established, and only once equalled, namely, in 1868. In London the shade temperature did not exceed 84 deg., a maximum lower by nearly 10 deg. than that which was registered in the last week of June. but in the south-west of France the thermometer is stated to have reached 100 deg. in the shade.

The Eurydice has been successfully lifted, and got nearer to the shore. It is expected that when the ship, which is still lying in over 50ft. of water, has been beached she will be cleared in Sandown Bay. More than 250 bodies have yet to be accounted for.

The rifle meeting at Wimbledon closed on Saturday. With regard both to the number of entries and the precision of the shooting, the meeting has been the most successful ever held. The Duke of Connaught distributed the prizes to the successful competitors. Private Rae, 1st Stirling, winner of the Queen's Prize received the usual musical honours. The Elcho Shield was won by the Irish team, and the Lords and Commons match by the Peers. The Ashburton Shield was won by the Eton team; but a Glenalmond boy carried off the Spencer Cup. For the Kolapore Cup the home team beat the Canadians by eleven points.

A double murder is reported from Ireland. A brother and sister named Ryan have been found dead in a bog stream at Tappagh, with large stones tied round their necks. It is supposed they were murdered with a view to robbery. No arrests have yet been made.

Addressing the Grand Jury at Mold, on Monday, Lord Justice Bramwell congratulated the Welsh people on the gratifying state of the calendars in the northern counties. In the whole of the northern half of the Principality there had been only fourteen prisoners for trial.

A noble institution in Sheffield, named the Jessop Hospital for Women, which has been built at a cost of 30,000*l.* by Mr. Thomas Jessop, was formally opened on Monday.

The Grosvenor Gallery was on Sunday night visited by upwards of 3,000 voices. It will be again opened in the same way on Sunday, August 4.

Marshal MacMahon left Paris on Saturday for Trouville, where he will spend a few days. Before leaving, the marshal paid a visit to the Prince of Wales.

It is announced that the French Chambers will be convoked for the beginning of the month of August, in order to ratify the action of the French representatives who signed the Treaty of Berlin. M. Waddington will, of course, take occasion to lay before Parliament a full exposition of what took place in the German capital, and a vote approving of what was done will follow. Immediately after the vote on the treaty the Chambers will be prorogued until Oct. 28.

Prince Bismarck arrived at Kissingen from Berlin on Wednesday evening. Prince Gortschakoff, who intended to proceed to Wildbad, has been called home, and will return to Germany later in the summer.

All the Nobiling family have, at their special request, been permitted to change their name for Edeling, the German translation of their former half-Latin patronymic.

The Emperor of Germany went out for a drive on Saturday afternoon, for the first time since the attack of Nobiling upon his life. His Majesty will go to Babelsburg as soon as the weather permits.

M. Gambetta, the Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* says, sent a message to Mr. T. B. Potter, expressing deep regret at his inability to attend the Cobden Club banquet this summer. He was very anxious to make a Free-Trade declaration there. Next year he trusts to be a guest of the Cobden Club. M. Gambetta, it is added, deplores the reaction in favour of protection which is taking serious proportions in France, but hopes when the railway and canal schemes of M. de Freycinet are accomplished the temptation to become protectionist will be removed from the industrial centres.

The Pope, according to the Roman correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, is about to remove from the Vatican to Perugia, where lodgings are being prepared for him. Cardinal Franchi, it is stated, has assured the French representative at Rome that the Pope's absence will not disturb the relations subsisting between the French Government and the Papal Court.

News has been received from the Cape by way of Madeira to July 2. An amnesty has been proclaimed and a free pardon offered to the Kaffirs who surrender themselves. The late Sandilli's sons and councillors have been captured. General Thesiger is in Cape Town, and Parliament has passed a vote of thanks to him, Commodore Sullivan, the army, navy, and colonial forces, for their services in quelling the rebellion on the frontier. A column of troops under Colonel Wood is on its march to Natal. The native rising in Griqualand West and Bechuana country still continues. At Campbell and Karaman great uneasiness is felt. Cetewayo has sent an embassy to Sir Theophilus Shepstone, repudiating the acts of the Zulus in the disputed territory.

Gleanings.

The advance-guard—A betrothal ring.

A Chicago reporter has just won his spurs by an article headed "Desperate Bloodshed—The MURDERED MAN NOT Expected to live?"

"Governesses should never be required to do low menial work," said a gentleman. "Certainly not, but they frequently aspire to the hymeneal," replied the lady.

"Really, Mr. Johnson, there's nae end to your wit," said a lady in the West of Scotland to a noted humourist. "Gude forbid, madam," he replied, "that I should ever be at my wit's end."

A woman being told that some tables in the Russian Department of the new French Exhibition were being made of malachite, exclaimed, "My goodness! I thought Malachite was one of the prophets."

A man applied for work, and the lady replied, "I have got all my servants. There is nothing for you to do." "Ah, madame, it will take very little work to occupy me," was the naive reply.

Under the circumstances of the increased cost of everything in Paris, it is not to be wondered at that beggars should scarcely vouchsafe a word of thanks to the passer-by for the gift of a penny. "What do you want me to do with these two sous?" asked a sturdy merchant of M. Jules Sandau, who had bestowed alms on him. "Keep them, my friend," he replied, "and give them to the first poor man you see."

A REAL THEATRICAL NOVELTY.—Theatrical business at Pompeii, which has been at a standstill since the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 A.D., appears to be looking up, judging from the following announcement of Signor Luigni:—"After a lapse of more than 1800 years, the theatre of this city will be opened with *La Figlia del Reggimento*. I solicit a continuance of the favour bestowed on my predecessor, Marcus Quintus Martius, and beg to assure the public that I shall make every effort to equal the rare qualities displayed during his management."

A NOVEL ADVERTISING MEDIUM.—A story is going the rounds about Mr. Boucicault. Of course everybody knows he is as bald as Uncle Ned. The veracious chronicler relates that at a certain theatre, where the actor was playing recently, he fell asleep in the green-room after leaving the stage for the night. Rousing himself after a comfortable nap he arose and went drowsily to his hotel. In the morning he entered the crowded breakfast-room, and emblazoned on his hairless cranium were the words "Use Hail Columbia Hair Restorer!" Another example of how the universal Yankee native will use any object, animate or inanimate, as an advertising medium.

A FLOATING BEEHIVE.—Our American cousins have hit upon another novelty, which we find thus referred to in a New York contemporary:—"A floating bee-house has been constructed by Mr. Peraine, a Chicago honey-dealer, large enough to accommodate 2,000 hives, which he is having towed up the Mississippi river from Louisiana to Minnesota, keeping pace with the blossoming of the flowers, and thus stimulating the honey-making ability of his bees. Returning, he will stop about two months somewhere above St. Louis, and will reach Louisiana in October. He wants to take advantage of the autumnal flowers at each point. The plan of moving the bees to get the benefit of flowers has been tried in a small way in some parts of Europe."—*Colonies and India.*

COMING DOWN.—A rising man at the Bar, who is well known for his peculiarity of pretending to have friends in a higher sphere of life than his own, pretended that he was asked to dine with the Lord Chancellor, but that he could not accept the invitation on account of the illness of his wife. His friend, who said he was invited also, said he would make it all right with the Chancellor. The first speaker paused a moment, and then rushed after him. "Stop, stop!" he cried. "I wish to say that you had better not mention me to his lordship." "Oh, yes, I will, be sure of it. Good-bye." "The fact is," said the other "you must not say anything." "Why not?" "The fact is," he replied, "that a—in fact—I am not exactly going to dine with the Lord Chancellor to-morrow. I was putting a case merely. I know he is going to invite me. Don't say a word, I implore of you." "*Not* going to dine with the Lord Chancellor to-morrow?" asked the other. "Did I understand you to say, after all this talk, that you are *not* going to dine with his lordship?" "No, no, I tell you," cried the

other, in an agony. "No?—nor I, either. Good-bye!"

AN EXCELLENT REFORM.—Mr. Knight, the General Manager of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, deserve well of his country, and ought to have a drinking fountain erected to his memory. He has returned from a tour of inspection of Continental lines, and although there is little of a really practical nature which foreigners can teach use in the general management of iron roads, there are many little details connected with the comfort and safety of passengers which we need, but scorn to imitate. Such a detail, which would never have struck railway directors in their lofty and cynical contempt of passenger traffic, he has brought back with him. A great poet, after Sir Wilfrid Lawson's own heart, has left on record that *aristo mea hudor*, which would be a mere platitude in any less beer-swilling countries than England and Bavaria. At most of the principal railway stations on the civilised portion of the Continent a table is set forth on the platform where iced water, *sorbets*, lemonade, cake, fruits in season, and bread and *wurst* can be purchased at a reasonable cost. It would perhaps be too great an innovation to expect the whole of these luxuries to be placed within the reach of the poorer travellers, who really form the majority of all ordinary trains, in the face of existing arrangements between the railway companies and the "refreshment" contractors. Consequently Mr. Knight has had to content himself with introducing what, it is hoped, may prove the thin edge of the wedge, in the shape of a glass of iced water, price one penny, for the thirsty traveller. Refreshments of the Mugby Junction kind are not conducive to digestion, sweet temper, or thrift; and a glass of iced water is infinitely preferable in these dog days to boiling beer and a tepid *tripotage* miscalled wine. To women and children, when brought round to the doors of the carriages, as it is intended to be, the draught will be a veritable boon. Let us be thankful for small mercies, even in instalments.—*Echo.*

THE GREAT CAPTIVE BALLOON IN PARIS.—M. Henri Giffard, a well-known French engineer, having determined to give visitors to the Paris Exhibition an opportunity of observing the gay capital from an elevated position, has constructed a gigantic captive balloon, capable of taking up fifty passengers at each ascent. It has cost him 20,000*l.* The balloon is about 116ft. in diameter by more than 170ft. in height, and contains nearly 900,000 cubic feet of gas. The raising power is obtained from hydrogen gas, which, being much lighter than atmospheric air, is capable, not only of lifting the dead weight of the balloon, but of supporting for a time the number of persons stated. The balloon is of course "captive"—that is, it is held to the ground by a strong cable nearly 2,000ft. long, and weighing about 7,000 pounds, the hauling-down power being supplied by two engines of 300 horse-power each. The net, which cost about 2,500*l.*, is secured at the crossings by strips of leather, to prevent any chafing of the fabric of the gas-bag, which is composed of layers of muslin, linen, and india-rubber. The outside is covered with zinc-white paint, to prevent, as far as possible, the effects of the rays of the sun, which would otherwise involve, by expansion, the loss of many cubic feet of hydrogen gas. An experimental ascent was made on Monday, when it reached a height of seven hundred yards, and was directed by M. Carnville Darton and the Brothers Godard. A letter from Paris says:—"So far the paving public has not been admitted to it. Twenty minutes is the time allotted to each aereal voyage. From the altitude to which the balloon rose this evening Paris resembled the Indian shawl in the Exhibition, having for the subject a pictorial plan of the town of Cashmere and its environs. It was purple with the glow of the setting sun. The motion of the balloon in a very faint breeze was analogous to that of a peg-top when it is near falling. The great city was as if peopled by a swarm of ants. The Exhibition was scarcely larger than one of those toy places which are to be bought at Nuremburg for half-a-florin each. Some of the ascensionists grew a little nervous when the balloon, having got to the end of its tether, jerked and strained a little. Nobody complained of giddiness. The descent was safely and pleasantly accomplished. It is expected that the popular ascents will be commenced at the end of the present week."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

PREEN—WINKLE.—July 16, at Rusholme-road Chapel, by the Rev. Dr. Thomson, Alfred George, second son of the late Joseph Preen, to Annie Blake, third daughter of John Winkle, all of Manchester.

BECK—HONNOR.—July 17, at the Congregational Chapel, Camberwell New-road, by the Rev. W. P. Tiddy, Richard Beck, eldest son of James Beck, of Wren-road, Camberwell, to Julia Honnor, fourth daughter of George Honnor, Leipsic-road, Camberwell.

BALL—ROBERTSON.—July 17, at Walworth-road Chapel, by the Rev. William Howieson, Sidney, second son of Mr. C. Ball, of H.M.C., and Wansey-street, Walworth, to Janet, second daughter of Mr. G. Robertson, of Camberwell-road, Surrey.

OLD—THOMAS.—July 18, at the English Baptist Church, Neath, by the Rev. George Hawker, Albert Edward Old, of the Swansea Bank, Llanelly, to Mary, only daughter of B. H. Thomas, of South-terrace, Neath.

ALLEN—HISLOP.—July 18, at Hare Court Chapel, Canonbury, John Freeman Allen, of Tenby House, Darnley-road, Hackney, to Lucy Hislop, of Church-road, Canonbury.

DEATHS.

GILL.—June 15, at Bedford, South Africa, Anne, relict of the Rev. Joseph Gill, for twelve years missionary in South Africa, and two years minister of the Congregational Church, Egerton, near Bolton.

ASHTON.—July 21, at 10, Powerscroft-road, Clapton, the Rev. Robert Ashton, aged 80. Friends please accept this intimation.

LUSH.—July 21, at 60, Avenue-road, Samuel Clarence, third son of the Hon. Mr. Justice and Lady Lush, after a long and painful illness, aged 26.

THE Medical profession are now ordering Cadbury's Cocoa Essence in thousands of cases, because it contains more nutritious and flesh-forming elements than any other beverage, and is preferable to the thick starchy Cocoa ordinarily sold. When you ask for Cadbury's Cocoa Essence be sure that you get it, as shopkeepers often push imitations for the sake of extra profit. Makers to the Queen. Paris depot: 90, Faubourg St. Honoré.

EPPS'S CACÁOINE (Quintessence of Cacáo).—Cacáoine is not so rich as chocolate, or substantial as prepared cocoa, but when made is a very fluid beverage, with an almond-like flavour, clean to the palate as tea, and refreshing to a degree, owing to the volatile action of the set free active principle of cacáo, theobromine. Cacáoine is the one stimulative warm drink that affords sterling support to the system. Each packet is labelled "James Epps and Co., Homœopathic Chemists, 48, Threadneedle-street, and 170, Piccadilly."

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism or Neuralgic Affections.—No diseases are more frequent, painful, or difficult to cure than these. From their attack no tissue of the human body is exempt—no age, sex, or calling secure. It is a blessing, however, to know that all these sufferings may be completely and expeditiously subdued by Holloway's remedies. The Pills much assist in banishing the tendency to rheumatism and similar painful disorders; whilst the Ointment cures the local ailments, the Pills remove the constitutional disturbance and regulate the impaired function of every organ throughout the human body.

RECKITT'S PARIS BLUE.—The marked superiority of this Laundry Blue over all others, and the quick appreciation of its merits by the public has been attended by the usual result—viz., a flood of imitations. The merit of the latter mainly consists in the ingenuity exerted, not simply in imitating the square shape, but making the general appearance of the wrappers resemble that of the genuine article. The manufacturers beg therefore to caution all buyers to see "Reckitt's Paris Blue" on each packet.

VIOLET INK.—A sixpenny bottle of Judson's Violet Dye will make a pint of beautiful ink in one minute by simply adding "hot water." Why not use this beautiful and economical preparation? In a pailful of water small woollen or silk articles can be dyed in ten minutes. Judson's Dyes, 24 colours, sixpence per bottle. Sold by chemists and stationers.

PERFECTION.—MRS. S. A. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORER is offered to the public with full confidence in its merits. Testimonials of the most flattering character have been received from every part of the world. Over forty years the favourite and never failing preparation to restore grey hair to its youthful colour and lustrous beauty, requiring only a few applications to secure new and luxuriant growth. The soft and silky texture of healthy hair follows its use. That most objectionable and destructive element to the hair called Dandruff is quickly and permanently removed. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers.

Mrs. S. A. ALLEN *has for over 40 years manufactured these two preparations. They are the standard articles for the hair. They should never be used together, nor Oil nor Pomade with either.*

Mrs. S. A. ALLEN'S Zylo-Balsamum, a simple tonic and hair-dressing of extraordinary merit for the young. Premature loss of the hair, so common, is prevented. Prompt relief in thousands of cases has been afforded where hair has been coming out in handfuls. It cleanses the hair and scalp, and removes dandruff. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers.

Advertisements.

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MESSRS. COOKE BAINES & CO., Surveyors and Valuers, No. 28, Finsbury-place, E.C., having had many years' experience in the settlement of Compensation Claims, offer their Services where property is required to be taken compulsorily.

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SURGEON-DENTIST,

WILL be glad to forward a Pamphlet, gratis and post free, which explains the most unique system of the adaptation of artificial and extraction of natural teeth without pain, from his only London address—

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Opposite the British Museum.

NOTE.—Improved PRIZE MEDAL TEETH (London and Paris) are adapted in the most difficult and delicate cases, on a perfectly painless system of self-adhesion, extraction of loose teeth or stumps being unnecessary; and, by recent scientific discoveries and improvements in mechanical dentistry, detection is rendered utterly impossible, both by the close adjustment of artificial teeth to the gums and their life-like appearance. By this patented invention complete mastication, extreme lightness, combined with strength and durability, are insured, useless bulk being obviated; articulation is rendered clear and distinct. In the administration of nitrous oxide gas, Mr. G. H. Jones has introduced an entirely new process.

TESTIMONIAL.

My Dear Sir,—Allow me to express my sincere thanks for the skill and attention displayed in the construction of my Artificial Teeth, which renders my mastication and articulation excellent. I am glad to hear that you have obtained Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent, to protect what I consider the perfection of Painless Dentistry. In recognition of your valuable services you are at liberty to use my name.

S. G. HUTCHINS.

By appointment Surgeon-Dentist to the Queen.

To G. H. Jones, Esq.

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A NEW LABEL,

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which signature is placed on every bottle of

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*** *Sold wholesale by the Proprietors, Worcester; Crosse and Blackwell, London; and Export Oilmen generally. Retail, by dealers in Sauces throughout the World.*

COAL.—COCKERELL'S COALS.—Best Wallsend, 24s. cash; Wallsend—Class B, 22s. cash; Best Inland, 22s. cash; Inland, Class B, 20s. cash; Nuts, 18s. Best Coke, 14s. Cash on delivery.

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"There's no sweeter Tobacco comes from Virginia, and no better brand than the 'THREE CASTLES.'"—*Vide* "The Virginians."

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THOS. BROWN and SON, Church Furnishers, 14, Albert-street, Manchester. CUSHIONS, HASSOCKS, SEAT MATS. Estimates and Contracts Free.

HEALTHY SKIN AND GOOD COMPLEXION.

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THE ROYAL FAMILY,

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Dry Tea subjected to Hydraulic Pressure yields 25 per cent. more strength than loose Tea.
The aroma more thoroughly extracted.

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Cures Blood and Skin Diseases,
Cures Glandular Swellings,
Clears the Blood from all Impure Matter,
From whatever cause arising.

As this Mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, the Proprietor solicits sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

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LOCKYER'S SULPHUR HAIR RESTORER will completely restore in a few days grey hair to its original colour without injury. It effects its object satisfactorily, producing a perfectly natural colour; thoroughly cleanses the head from scurf, and causes the growth of new hair. Sold everywhere by Chemists and Hairdressers in large bottles at 1s. 6d. each.

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		C	D	A	B E	B.
	a.m.	a.m.		p.m.	p.m	p.m.
LONDON (St. Pan.).....dep.	5 15	10 30		8 0	9 15	9 15
Edinburgh .....arr.	4 35	8 40		6 0	7 45	7 45
Glasgow ..... ,,	4 50	9 0		...	7 50	7 50
Greenock..... ,,	5 55	9 52		...	8 23	8 23
Perth ..... ,,	7 45	11 40		8 40	11 10	11 10
Aberdeen ..... ,,	...	3 20		12 40	2 35	2 35
INVERNESS ..... ,,	...	8 55		2 45	6 25	6 25

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To the Down Scotch Express Train leaving St. Pancras at 9.15 p.m. a Through Carriage is attached for Aberdeen, via Edinburgh, Stirling, and the Tay Bridge.

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For further particulars see Time Tables.

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DESIGNS for CHAPELS and SCHOOLS, ARTISTIC and ECONOMICAL. Perfect in ACOUSTICS, WARMING, and VENTILATION.

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THE MIRACULOUS CURE for CORNS (BRODIE'S REMEDY) gives immediate relief from pain, and speedily cures the most obstinate corns. All sufferers should try it. Sold by all chemists, or sent direct for 15 stamps.—LAWRENCE and Co., 485, Oxford-street, London.

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The Oriental Pills are sold in boxes at 1s. 1½d. and 4s. 6d. each. The Solar Elixir in bottles at 4s. 6d. and 11s. each. Both to be obtained of all Chemists

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Opiates, Narcotics, and Squills are too often invoked to give relief in Coughs, Colds, and all Pulmonary Diseases, instead of such fallacious remedies, which yield momentary relief at the expense of enfeebling the digestive organs, and thus increasing that debility which lies at the root of the malady, modern science points to CROSBY'S BALSAMIC COUGH ELIXIR as the true remedy.

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This medicine, which is free from opium and squills, not only allays the local irritation, but improves digestion and strengthens the constitution. Hence it is used with the most signal success in Asthma, Bronchitis, Consumption, Coughs, Influenza, Night Sweats of Consumption, Quinsy, and all affections of the throat and chest.

Sold in bottles at 1s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each, by all respectable chemists, and wholesale by Jas. M. Crosby Chemist, Scarborough.

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"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—*Church and State Gazette.*

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—Sir William Fergusson, Bart., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Coulson, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital; T. Blizard Curling, Esq., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.; and many others.

A Descriptive Circular may be had by post, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer,

Mr. WHITE, 228, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

Price of a Single Truss, 16s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s 6d. Postage, free.

Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d. Postage, free.

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Post Office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post Office, Piccadilly.

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ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c.—The material of which these are made is recommended by the Faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support in all cases of WEAKNESS and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 10s., and 16s. each. Postage, free.

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3. The Duke of Wellington and the Aristocracy.
4. Lambeth Palace.
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